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Sub-Saharan Africa Report

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FORMER FNLA LEADER ACCEPTS AMNESTY

Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA in Portuguese 13 Oct 85 p 1

[Text] Feliz Garcia Vumaciana, former Central Committee member of the now extinct FNLA, stated yesterday in Luanda that his voluntary reentry into Angolan society was the result "of taking a conscious position based on an in-depth analysis of the correct policy developed by the MPLA Labor Party in the People's Republic of Angola."

Feliz Vumaciana was Cabinet Director from 1974 to 1979 for Holden Roberto, the ex-president of the now defunct organization. In a statement for national publication, Vumaciana, who turned himself in to Angolan authorities in Luanda, said that many Angolans who had joined the puppet organization [FNLA] wanted to return to the country, in response to the policy of clemency begun in 1978 by Saudoso Presidente Neto. "However, they are discouraged by the propaganda campaign carried on abroad against the RPA (People's Republic of Angola)."

Vumaciana, now 35 years old and who became a militant in the FNLA at an early age, described Holden Roberto as "an absolutist and blind individual, who is too ambitious and adventurous."

"He lives between Paris, Alexandria and Miami where he is in permanent contact with Cuban counterrevolutionary sources." He added: "The FNLA no longer exists as a liberation movement. We cannot take seriously the activities undertaken by Holden Roberto in the United States."

Vumaciana described the puppet group UNITA as "a tame instrument of imperialists and racists, one without popular acceptance which resorts to tribalism and regionalism."

"UNITA was never a liberation movement," he emphasized, adding that "UNITA, as well as Holden Roberto and the United States, cannot do anything to prevent the progress of the revolution in Angola."

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PARTY SECRETARY CRITICIZES LACK OF POLITICAL COURAGE

Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA in Portuguese 15 Oct 85 pp 1, 11

[Text] On Friday in N'Dalatando, the Secretary of the Party's Central Committee for Ideological Matters, Roberto de Almeida, stated that the new South African aggression against Angola clearly assumes the character of direct confrontation, meant to protect desperate puppet groups who are now in disorderly flight due to the vigorous action of the FAPLA against their last strongholds.

Speaking at the closing of the third Provincial Conference in preparation for the II Party Congress, Robert de Almeida indicated that the internal situation in the country of Apartheid has worsened greatly. This is due to the system's increased contradictions and to the revolution action by South African patriots, who have decided to break the chains of exploitation and oppression.

The leader condemned North American interference in the RPA's affairs, as demonstrated by the repeal of the Clark Amendment and by demanding the withdrawal of Cuban internationalists from Angola as a condition for Namibia's independence. The Secretary declared that Imperialism seeks to impose on the Angolan people a middleman who has been hopelessly condemned by all of humanity: the South African puppets.

The Angolan leader emphasized that the explanation for most current conflicts in the world--in which socialism daily extends the zones of liberated humanity--can be found in the racial incidents which take place constantly in the main cities of the United States of American and other western countries, and in the high unemployment and illiteracy and degrading conditions in which immigrants and minorities live in those countries.

Consequently, Botha's regime--based as it is on racial discrimination, exploitation, forced labor, and the denial of the most elementary human rights--becomes more and more untenable even for the industrialized capitalist countries, which are the regime's main basis for survival, he said.

Condemn Infiltrators

Roberto de Almeida emphasized that the II Party Congress is an important event which will adopt measures that will lead to improvement of the nation's

ills. "The MPLA-Labor Party is a Marxist-Leninist Party whose basic and strategic objective is the building of Scientific Socialism in Angola," he stressed.

He indicated that Scientific Socialism or Democratic Centralism cannot be confused with the undignified behavior "that has taken place in some work sessions performed in Northern Kwanza." He denounced the lack of political courage, the involvement of certain Party members in business, and the forming of groups within the heart of the MPLA-Labor Party.

"In the heart of the Party's Provincial Committee in Northern Kwanza there are various problems due to lack of political maturity, to sectarism and to certain regionalist feelings still held by some of the members," warned Roberto de Almeida. "One of the main duties of Party members is to fight against those who infiltrate the Party's ranks for opportunistic reasons, and for the enjoyment of privileges which benefit them, their relatives, or friends," he said.

The Secretary of Ideological Matters expressed the opinion that a true militant is one who, in addition to complying with the Party's statutes and Program, acts honestly based on Democratic Centralism, dynamically performs the tasks assigned by his superiors, and has the political courage to refer problems to the appropriate level.

After declaring that the bandit who murders our people is just as dangerous as the Party member who, under any pretext, sows dissension and sets confusion in the ranks, the MPLA-Labor Party Secretary advised the Northern Kwanza Provincial Commission for Control of the Party to assume its role militantly on behalf of Party cohesion.

After harsh criticism for groups formed within the heart of the Party, the leader explained that as an example of the road to be followed, it is only necessary to mention heroes such as Agostinho Neto, Hoji-Ya-Henda, Tomas Bomboko, Dak-Doy, N'Zaji, Dangereux, Eurico, Saidy Mingas, and others.

He stressed the responsibility of the delegates to the II Party Congress with regard to defending the interests of all the people. He urged them to base their behavior on established principles of honesty and earnestness, and on militant courage in order to better manage the problems of the Party and the State, without influences of any kind.

Roberto de Almeida rendered a heartfelt tribute to the Leader of the Angolan Revolution, President Jose Eduardo dos Santos, describing him as an eminent statesman who assumed great responsibility during very difficult times for the Angolan People, and one who has "proven himself to be the most consistent of all and the most uncompromising defender of the interests of the operators and the peasants."

As he asserted, the struggle of the MPLA-Labor Party must be channeled towards the annihilation of puppet groups which serve imperialism and seek an internal reaction which undermines independence.

"Without the Party we cannot continue the socialist revolution, without the revolution we will lose the independence and we will have in the country a puppet, neo-colonial government, subjugated to the imperialists," he concluded.

The Party's Provincial Conference in Northern Kwanza elected one candidate to the Central Committee of the MPLA-Labor Party, and 37 delegates to the Congress.

The attendees to the conference approved with slight modifications the reports of the Party's Provincial Committee, of its Control Commission, as well as that of the Provincial Commission for the preparation of the Grand Conference of the MPLA-Labor Party, scheduled for December.

Of special attention to the Party militants in Northern Kwanza were the reinforcement of the Party's leadership role, Party and Class Struggle, Directed Economy System, Social Development and Raising of the People's Standard of Living, as well as Development of Material Production.

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LUANDA-MALANJE RAIL REPAIRS BEGIN

Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA in Portuguese 3 Nov 85 p 3

[Text] N'Dalatando--More than 2 months ago, experts of the Portuguese consortium Serpritac, a firm qualified in the construction of industrial and commercial enterprises, began the project of repairing the Luanda-Malanje railroad within the framework of an agreement signed between Angola Railways and its Portuguese counterpart.

Participating in the railway line restoration, which is comprised of several phases are 12 Portuguese cooperation aides and 110 Angolan workers, all of them under the technical supervision of railway engineer Jose Caramelo. The activities are supervised on the part of Luanda Railways by Caspar dos Santos, an employee of that agency.

The project would have begun in September of last year had it not been for the instability prevailing in some areas surrounding the line.

The fulcrum of this activity is the quarry, an area of extreme importance for the complete repair of the line, mainly in terms of supplying ballast, a raw material produced at the site by a rock crusher with a nominal capacity of 400 cubic meters of materials per week.

The Portuguese technicians who repaired the long-abandoned machine, which was in danger of becoming completely ruined, said that that figure could increase considerably depending on the kind of rock.

The first phase of restoration consists in repairing 30 kilometers of the stretch linking N'Dalatando to Kilometer 270; the second will cover the line from Viana to Malanje; and the third will begin in the stretch between Nzenza-Doitombe and Cacuso.

The railroad plays a very important role in the socio-economic life of the northern and eastern regions of the country because it is through it that is insured the supply of essential goods for the population and of all types of material essential to the tasks of national reconstruction.

Meanwhile, the obsolescent condition of the line as a result of the lack of permanent technical maintenance has somewhat delayed the harmonious

development of these parts of the country. That fact has already resulted in a number of derailments, some of them with drastic consequences. Railroad officials estimate that railroad accidents have figured in 50 to 60 percent of them. The most dramatic disaster occurred in June 1984, resulting in more than 200 deaths and various personal injuries.

Recently interviewed by ANGOP, Portuguese Railways engineer Jose Caramelo said that because of its state, the line is no longer in condition for a regular railroad operation intended for the regular transporation of passengers and goods. "The line no longer responds to those needs," he said.

Jose Caramelo considered that there are excellent prospects for the restoration of the line because the bases of its construction are very good.

Jose Caramelo is of the opinion that the profit potential of the Malanje Railway is dependent more on the respective organization and management and, at the same time, on the creation of intermediate organizational structures for its permanent conservation.

"If the train density were greater, I would say that the railway was at the limit of practicability in some sections," stressed Jose Caramelo in analyzing the current conditions of the route.

The projects underway are quite significant from the viewpoint of conservation. With regard to the matter, the Portuguese expert said that the line is so rundown that in the present condition one can no longer talk of conservation because it is so decrepit that without radical restoration action the problems of conservation become invalid.

In the initial phase, the restoration of the route involves the repair of the ballast unloading platform and compilation of the geometric characteristics of the line. According to the railroad expert, the subsequent phases are more ambitious from a quantitative viewpoint and their projects could possibly extend along the whole route of the Malanje Railway.

For an effective and permanent conservation, he considered essential the creation of intermediate organizational structures, technical-material conditions and appropriately trained Angolan personnel, skilled in performing that function themselves.

In the meantime, Gaspar dos Santos, the official attached to Luanda Railways attributed the blame for the current condition of the line, independent of the aspects already emphasized, to the massive flight of skilled and other personnel as a result of the lack of good social conditions and low salaries.

According to that same official, the railways are going to adopt measures aimed at rectifying the situation, with particular emphasis on raising salaries and solving the problems of the railroad workers.

The inadequacy of the technical equipment necessary for the better progress of the projects, the lack of support by certain companies in North Kwanza and a certain insecurity in the region which forces them to work unfavorable schedules are factors that affect the proper progress of the line restoration work, said Gaspar dos Santos.
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PORTO AMBOIM FUEL STORAGE RESERVOIR COMPLETED

Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA in Portuguese 3 Nov 85 p 3

[Text] Sumbe--A SONANGOL reservoir with a storage capacity of 11.6 million liters of various types of fuel, specifically, gasoil, gasoline, lamp oil, fuel oil and jet fuel, has been built in the city of Porto Amboim by the Soviet construction company over a period of 2 years.

Work on that complex, called "large fuel depot" FT100, is considered completed inasmuch as the first fuel unloading operation was conducted recently in order to proceed with preliminary tests, which will soon be followed by others related to the loading of tank cars.

Questioned by ANGOP, the deputy delegate of SONANGOL in South Kwanza Eugenio Couceiro, who did not specify the total cost of the project, said that the "sea-line," which is about 1,400 meters long up to the tanks, was installed in 60 days by the Dutch Volker-Vissere Smit Hanab Company.

Although there are others in Lobito, Luanda and Namibe, this one is considered the first maritime terminal in the People's Republic of Angola.

That enterprise, superior to the one built in Malange, is comprised of a fire-control center with two tanks for 500,000 liters of water each, a platform for filling drums, a part to supply shipping, a fuel-heating complex and a part for dry-ice foam to prevent fires.

Eugenio Couceiro said also that last August Paviterra (a joint economic unit) began the construction of a road to connect the storage depot to the asphalt but it is not scheduled to be completed until July of next year. This fact could influence the normal operation of the facilities, especially during rainy weather.

For distribution of the products to the different municipalities of the province and neighboring towns of South Kwanza, the SONANGOL deputy delegate requested tank trucks and long-range dry-cargo vehicles and other light to support the work of maintaining supply positions as well as the mess hall with a capacity of 100 workers.

In full operation, the large fuel depot will solve the fuel shortage that is being felt especially in the cities of Sumbe, Porto Amboim, Gabela and Wago-Kungo, where there is heavy fuel consumption.
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BILATERAL COOPERATION WITH YUGOSLAVIA DISCUSSED

Delegations Meet for Talks

Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA in Portuguese 14 Nov 85 p 1

[Text] The analyses and discussions on the progress in the status of cooperation between the People's Republic of Angola and the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia continued yesterday in Luanda, with major meetings of the groups comprising the two countries' mixed intergovernmental commission for economic and scientific-technical cooperation.

In fact, during this sixth session, as well as at the others held periodically, the two official delegations have devoted themselves to the work seriously, in a spirit of cooperation, involving the most diversified sectors of the national economy, stressing at present a possible increase in the fields of energy and petroleum. And, in the interest of both nations, there might also be a marked expansion of the commercial exchanges and of the banking and financial cooperation.

Thus, to provide minimal details on the importance attached to this sixth session of the mixed Angolan-Yugoslav commission, whose work began last Tuesday and, according to the official program, is scheduled to end tomorrow, nearly 43 individuals associated with government, banks and leading agroindustrial enterprises of the two countries, represented by the chairmen of the aforementioned commission, namely, Jorge Flora, the Angolan minister of construction, and Ante Sucic, participated in it.

Apart from the work, the chairman of the mixed commission representing the Yugoslav side, Ante Sucic, held meetings yesterday morning with the minister of foreign trade, Ismael Martins, and with the vice minister of agriculture, Antonio Joaquim Russo, during which they are presumed to have discussed matters involving the cooperation and development in the two areas.

During the afternoon interval, Ante Sucic, accompanied by the head of the construction ministry, the Yugoslav ambassador to our country, Ivo Kustrac, and Francisco Romao, ambassador of the People's Republic of Angola to the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, was received by the head of the Angolan diplomatic service, Afonso Van-Dunem, "M'Binda."

Ante Sucic was also received by Lopo do Nascimento, Angolan minister of planning, and by the state secretary of cooperation, Carlos Fernandes.

After the meeting with Lopo do Nascimento, that Yugoslav government official also held a brief meeting with the press, during which he noted that the official talks were taking place in a frank, cordial and open manner, giving a reminder of the major meetings with nine Angolan ministries.

The chairman of the mixed Angolan-Yugoslav intergovernmental commission representing the Yugoslav side, also stressed his country's great interest in intensifying the cooperation in the areas of energy and petroleum, in the People's Republic of Angola; pointing out that, "Yugoslavia has enterprises that are world-renowned, with capable cadres in those fields, who have already participated in the production from the Nos 1 and 3 units on the Angolan coast (...)."

Trade Figures Given

Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA in Portuguese 15 Nov 85 p 12

[Text] The Yugoslav ambassador accredited to the RPA, Ivo Krustac, stated in Luanda that the commercial exchanges between Angola and Yugoslavia during the first 8 months of 1985 amounted to $15.3 million ($1 is equivalent to 30,214 kwanzas), three times more than during the previous year.

Speaking at a press conference on the occasion of Yugoslav Commercial Day, at the Luanda International Fair, Krustac claimed that the commercial exchanges between the two countries posted an increase after the visit paid to that country by the Angolan president, Jose Eduardo dos Santos, in 1984.

Regarding his country's participation in "FILDA [Luanda International Fair]-85," the Yugoslav diplomat said that it proved, once again, the desire to develop economic cooperation between the two countries over the long term, in all areas, based on mutual interest.

The Yugoslav exports to the Angolan market consist basically of foodstuffs, medical equipment, clothing, footwear and other consumer items.

In the field of civil construction, the Yugoslav enterprises in that sector have gained considerable experience, specifically, the "planum" on the part of Zemum, which has already made studies on some projects in Angola, and has expressed an interest in continuing its activities.

Moreover, Ivo Krustac noted that, since 1980, Yugoslav enterprises in the energy field have participated in oil exploration in Angola and in the investigation and exploitation of phosphates and iron ore, in conjunction with Angolan enterprises.

Also in the area of economic cooperation between the two countries, the Yugoslav ambassador remarked that there is a financial agreement regarding the granting of a line of credit in the amount of $15 million, for the purchase of certain products from Yugoslavia on the part of Angola.

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PRODUCTION, MARKETING DIFFICULTIES IN NAMIBE

Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA in Portuguese 15 Nov 85 p 12

[Excerpt] Namibe--In the socioeconomic context of Namibe Province, the municipality of Bibala is the one with the greatest potential in the agricultural and livestock area. For this reason, the marketing process in the rural sections appears as a leading activity which, in the near future, promises to attain higher production levels. About 156 kilometers north of the capital headquarters of the province (Namibe), 10 shops comprise the commercial stations in Bibala, where the livestock raisers and peasants from the area go, for the purpose of selling the products of their labor and buying goods which the rural areas lack. In this connection, ENCODIPA [National Company for Marketing and Distribution of Agricultural Products] is the sector giving an impetus to this important activity, which is aimed at intensifying the alliance which already exists between the people from the urban and rural areas. Through the head of the municipal agency, Francisco Caingona, those of us from JORNAL DE ANGOLA who traveled there learned that the steps taken for the marketing are assessed as positive inasmuch as the volume of products marketed has increased.

According to Francisco Caingona, during the three quarters of this year, 7,956 animals were marketed, including 198 head of cattle, 1,522 goats, 264 hogs, and 5,942 birds (chickens).

In agricultural products, there were 12 tons and 984 kilograms of corn, 4,112 kilograms of sorghum, and 9 tons and 149 kilograms of feed sorghum, the goal attained for purchases from the peasants, selling to them, in turn, plows, textiles, samalala and paint, blankets, pocket knives, sugar, wine, bicycles, and motorcycles.

As for the obstacles hampering the normal progress of marketing in the Bibala rural area, as the municipal head of ENCODIPA claimed, they consist of the shortage of transportation for the removal of the products purchased and the collection of the increasing monetary receipts.

Francisco Caingona also remarked that the lack of certain items, such as axes, hoes, machetes, and iron chains has caused them to continue being the products constantly sought by the workers engaged in livestock tending and agriculture.

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DOS SANTOS VISITS ZAMBIA, REVIEWS REGIONAL ISSUES

Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA in Portuguese 16 Nov 85 p 1

[Text] The President of the MPLA-Worker's Party, and of the People's Republic of Angola, Jose Eduardo dos Santos, returned home after a short working visit to the Republic of Zambia, as part of the bilateral Presidential-level contacts between the two countries.

The Angolan chief of state said at the beginning of the conversations he held with his Zambian counterpart that the visit to Zambia had as its principal objective an appreciation of the problems of common interest connected with bilateral relations, and also the situation in the southern part of the African continent.

With regard to the agitated situation in Southern Africa, President Jose Eduardo dos Santos made it very clear that, "events have recently occurred in that area which are of concern to the Angolan people, as well as other peoples of the region."

President dos Santos referred specifically to the increased intensity of South African attacks on Angola, Mozambique, and other countries in the region, "whether using the armed forces of South Africa, or using armed bandits."

The policy of destabilization of the sovereign countries of Southern Africa by South Africa was very much referred to by the President of the MPLA-Worker's Party, and he mentioned the unbridled repression which has victimized the patriots of Namibia, which is fighting for its independence.

The Angolan chief of state, in characterizing South Africa's policy of repression, said that patriots had been taken prisoner, and many had lost their lives; and he added, "a provisional government was installed in Namibia by South Africa, violating U.N. resolutions, and thereby delaying the implementation of Resolution 435, granting independence to the people of Namibia."

"Adding to this situation, and most serious of all, we continue to observe on the part of some western powers, and particularly the United States of America, a passive attitude with regard to the grave situation in Southern Africa," said the Angolan chief of state, adding that, "in some cases, this attitude has not only been passive, but actually contrary to the interests of the peoples of the region."

In referring to the revocation of the "Clark amendment" by the United States of America, the Angolan chief of state emphasized that, "the congress, and other American institutions, already openly discuss the mountains of aid which ought to be granted to the bandits of UNITA in order to continue to destabilize the situation in Angola and in other countries."

With regard to the military situation faced by the People's Republic of Angola, and the undeclared war that has been imposed upon her, the President of the People's Republic of Angola stated that, if it were not for the intervention of the South African forces and its air power, used to save UNITA, the Angolan armed forces would have destroyed the main propaganda base of the armed units in Jamba.

"Even despite the South African intervention, we caused heavy losses," said the Angolan chief of state, adding quite objectively that, "our forces knew how to direct such operations with great distrinction and great success."

Quite modestly President dos Santos clarified that the successes achieved were not only by the Angolan people, but by other countries in the front lines.

12857/9435
CSO: 3442/99

COOPERATION WITH YUGOSLAVIA TO INCREASE

Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA in Portuguese 16 Nov 1985 pp 1, 12

[Text] The Sixth Session of the Intergovernmental Angolan-Yugoslavian Mixed Commission of Scientific-Technical Cooperation closed yesterday morning, at the Assembly Hall of the Secretary of State for Cooperation with the of a Protocol between the Government of the People's Republic of Angola and the Federal Executive Council of the Assembly of the Federated Socialist Republic of Yugoslavia.

Those who signed the document were: the Minister of Construction, Jorge Flora, for Angola, and Anto Sucic, a member of the Federal Executive Council, for Yugoslavia, both presidents of the Mixed Commission which, after the signing of the accords, described the exhaustive conversations as an important step in the reinforcement of the multi-faceted cooperation between the two countries, in keeping with the desire of the Presidents of the People's Republic of Angola and of the Federated Socialist Republic of Yugoslavia, respectively, Jose Eduardo dos Santos and Radovan Vlajkovic.

The two governmental entities, to quote the language of the closing ceremony, were pleased with the positive results achieved in the study of projects which have been carried out, and those which are under way, with a view toward their leading to various kinds of real and profitable collaboration of interest to the two peoples.

During the proceedings of the Sixth Session of the Mixed Commission, according to the protocol, the two parties reviewed the results of the bilateral economic relations during the period since the last session. An examination was also made of the possibilities to increase and further develop cooperative economic relations in all areas of mutual interest.

During the three days of work, the two delegations, which were chaired by Jorge Flora and Anto Sucic, analyzed the domains of Agriculture, Industry, Fishing, Construction, Energy, Petroleum, Transportation and Communications, Foreign Trade, Banking and Finance, and Technical-Scientific and Cultural Cooperation, and evaluated the commitments made as positive.

The readiness to develop efforts at the revitalization of cooperation, and the identification of projects in various sectors where real possibilities

exist, was affirmed by both delegations in their conversations, which were carried out in a sincere and open atmosphere, guaranteeing the stable future of collaboration between the two peoples and governments.

Anto Sucic left Luanda yesterday for Belgrade after about six days here, and, along with his work at the Sixth Session of the Mixed Intergovernmental Commission, met with the Angolan Ministers of Foreign Relations, Planning, Foreign Trade, Energy and Petroleum, Transportation and Communication, and with the Secretary of State for Cooperation, and the Vice-Minister of Industry and Agriculture.

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CSO: 3442/99

CONDOLENCES SENT TO BENGUELA'S PROVINCIAL COMMISSAR

Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA in Portuguese 16 Nov 85 p 12

[Text] Benguela--The president of the People's Republic of Angola and commander in chief of the FAPLA, Jose Eduardo dos Santos, sent the provincial commissar of Benguela Province, Kundy Payama, a message of condolence regarding the treacherous attack by bandits which occurred on 10 November between Balombo and Bocoio.

This is the content of the message:

"Comrade Kundy Payama, provincial commissar of Benguela.

"It was with great consternation that we received the news of the criminal attack by the 'UNITA' puppets which caused the deaths of several cadres, workers, and combatants who were doing their duty as workers with all our people, to hasten the solution of the country's problems.

"I request that you convey to the Provincial Committee, the People's Assembly, and the commissariat the most profound tribute from the party's leadership to the comrades who fell on the field of honor.

"I ask you to convey to the mourning families our immense sorrow and most heartfelt condolences for the tragic incident.

"At this time of grief and sadness for all of us, particularly the immediate families of the fallen comrades, mobilize the solidarity of the party and the state in the province, to assist these families materially. Mobilize the working masses to repudiate the criminal act at political ceremonies.

"I wish you courage and serenity at this difficult time. Accept our revolutionary greetings."

ANGOP Journalist Murdered by the Pretoria Puppets in Bocoio

The journalist Avelino Bongo, assigned to ANGOP's [Angolan Press Agency] Benguela provincial agency, was shot to death by the Pretoria puppet gangs on 10 November, as he was traveling from Balombo to Bocoio.

That ANGOP reporter was going to cover the news concerning the activity of a delegation consisting of representatives from various party and government sectors of Benguela Province which went to the Bocoio area.

As a result of this act by the bandits, there were 15 fatalities to mourn, including that of the unfortunate reporter.

Avelino Bongo, aged 23, a native of Vila da Graca, Huambo, and single, recently finished his apprenticeship at the agency's headquarters, in Benguela, and was soon to be assigned ANGOP correspondent in the municipality of Chongoroi.

In connection with this criminal act, which clearly reflects the intentions prompting the puppets from the terrorist organization that goes by the name of "UNITA," the group of workers from the Angola Press Agency, ANGOP, cannot fail to address an appeal to the progressive journalists throughout the world to vehemently repudiate this crime without a category of which a colleague and comrade was a victim, while engaged in his professional activity.

The gangs in the service of Pretoria, in their desperation, have no regard for means with which to attain the goals devised for them by their mentors, namely, to destabilize an independent, sovereign state.

The weapons are aimed at the Angolan people, directed mainly at peaceful people who only want to construct a fatherland free from all the vestiges of a past marked by oppression and exploitation.

2909
CSO: 3442/93

NEW MEMBERS JOIN VIGILANCE BRIGADES IN NAMIBE

Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA in Portuguese 16 Nov 85 p 12

[Text] Namibe--Over 400 workers who have joined the People's Vigilance Brigades [BPV] took an oath on Thursday in this town to be loyal to the fatherland and the revolution, in connection with the celebrations marking the BPV's second anniversary.

During the ceremony, which took place in front of the party's provincial committee headquarters, under the chairmanship of Fernando Faustino Muteka, party coordinator and commissar of Namibe Province, the brigade members received the arm bands which from now on will identify them in the difficult mission that they are to carry out.

On this occasion, in a message, the individuals recruited into the BPV unanimously accepted the responsibility of engaging, with enthusiasm and dedication, in the activities inherent in the people's vigilance, reporting and taking into custody all those who make attacks against the progress of the revolution.

Bringing the ceremony to a close, Faustino Muteka took the floor and devoted particular attention to the BPV's work in Namibe, which has increased in only 2 years, with their establishment in the residential zones.

After having commented on the negative factors delaying the solution to the most pressing problems besetting the population, he said that the brigade member's action must always be aimed at eradicating all the bad things, and striving to improve the people's living conditions.

The members of the organization placed a wreath at the tomb of the unknown soldier.

2909
CSO: 3442/93

RESULTS OF LITERACY CAMPAIGN IN HUAMBO REPORTED

Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA in Portuguese 16 Nov 85 p 12

[Text] Huambo--During the 11 literacy battles in this province, which ended during June, 78,400 illiterate persons learned to read and write.

Among those who gained literacy are 45,428 men and 32,972 women. The 14th phase, which started on 8 September, is now under way.

The literacy battle in Huambo began officially in 1977, with the creation of the first literacy centers in the municipalities of Huambo, Caala, Chuncuma, Longojo and Cunha; extending to all areas of the province the next year, and aiding 350,159 illiterate persons since then.

The acting coordinator of the provincial literacy center, Lucas Tchicoco, told ANGOP [Angolan Press Agency] that Huambo Province has always been one of the most heavily populated, and as such, it has living in it a large number of illiterate persons, whose numbers have now been reduced by 27 percent as a result of the efforts undertaken.

Lucas Tchicoco considered the seventh phase of this battle, which concluded at the end of 1982, "historic," because during it 15,675 illiterate persons learned to read and write, the record accrued for a single phase.

With regard to the progress of the literate people's study, Lucas Tchicoco claimed that 90 percent of them, with good achievement in each phase of the literacy process, are prevented from continuing because of the lack of capacity for a response from adult education, which is non-existent in certain areas where the literacy process is now intensifying.

He added: "Without an immediate solution for these problems, we run the risk of succumbing to illiteracy again, something that would never make it possible to eradicate this disgraceful situation."

He noted that to eliminate this defect over the short and medium term, it will be necessary to begin teaching reading and writing in native languages. It should be noted that most of the illiterate persons are concentrated in the rural areas where there are hardly any young people with schooling beyond fourth grade, the lowest qualification required for the literacy instructors.

2902
CSO: 3442/93

LARA HAILS DECADE OF PARTY SUCCESSES

Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA in Portuguese 23 Nov 85 pp 1, 12

[Text] In the ten years since independence much work has been accomplished and many conquests made, especially in the area of organization of the Party, the State and associations, declared Lucio Lara, member of the Political Bureau and Secretary of the Central Committee of the MPLA-Labor Party for Organization, reviewing the ten years of freedom in an interview with ANGOP (Angolan Press Agency).

Lucio Lara recognized, however, that the democratic and popular revolution's objectives of creating healthy conditions for all people are still far from being realized. In establishing a comparison with other countries of the so-called "Third World," he emphasized that the People's Republic of Angola is not very far from the extremes, even with regard to many of those countries that do not have the conditions of war that Angola is experiencing.

The Secretary of the Party for Organization emphasized that even if the RPA has many problems, these are often due to a combination of the war imposed on it by imperialism, and other internal factors both objective and subjective, such as the lack of cadres, business organization, and profitability.

Nevertheless, Lucio Lara wants Angola to develop with its own strength and with the support of countries as friendly to the socialist camp as to the African continent.

"On the several occasions that we tried to review all national activity since independence, we were unanimous in stressing that the Angolan people have known how to maintain the enthusiasm with which we gained independence, since certainly it was not possible to overcome all the obstacles fundamentally marked by the situation of war with the special characteristics imposed by imperialism," he said.

"In the face of the war situation," he continued, "we organized an army that, because of circumstances, has up until now shown itself more and more capable of fulfilling its role in the defense of national sovereignty, and that signifies a gigantic effort, as much in terms of financial resources as in the different aspects of organization of the diverse branches of the Armed Forces." For the BP (Political Bureau) member, extraordinary and even unforeseeable events have taken place in the military arena.

In making a sectoral accounting, Lucio Lara affirmed that in education, apart from the difficulties which the academic establishments are experiencing, an enormous effort has been made which translates into the fact that "even today we find students with their professor holding class in the shadow of a tree," an attitude which he considers quite positive.

Backing up his affirmation, the Political Bureau member stated, "we did not have the physical possibility of creating the schools that we need, but the decision and the will exists, in spite of that, to keep, as far as possible, the students, the school-age children, employed, in terms of education."

He recognized, nevertheless, the lack of teachers, and that as a result there is much to do, pointing out that it cannot be forgotten that many schools were destroyed by the war and many teachers killed.

From the economic point of view, Lucio Lara stated that much has been done, especially in organization, and he cited as an example the petroleum branch which he considers the "basic sector of the economy." According to him, it has been developed with much skill, as well as the fishing sector. "Today we have enormous potential and we can accomplish much more in this area," he emphasized.

In other sectors which Lucio Lara also pointed out, such as domestic and foreign trade, it has still not been possible to replace the trade network of colonial times, although he showed himself convinced that there will soon be progress toward the establishment of a minimal trade network serving the population, in spite of the element of war which has made its expansion more difficult.

"In the industrial sector we can say that we have made great strides, because we inherited factories, machines and some conscientious workmen who were capable of maintaining those factories in good order, even though we did not have qualified technicians," related Lucio Lara, noting the steps made in this sector.

In the opinion of the Secretary of the Central Committee for Organization, this sector and that of agriculture are those which have suffered most from the effects of war.

The other area in which progress has also been made is that of transportation, especially with regard to overland vehicles, buses and trains in which, after independence, large investments were made, particularly in public and maritime transportation, thanks to which they developed in a gigantic way even under the conditions we are experiencing.

The Political Bureau member stated further that "maritime transportation is being modernized so as to try to correspond exactly to our objective needs." Many other sectors, independent of their highs and lows, are moving forward "a step at a time."

With respect to technical training, Lucio Lara noted the great steps made, particularly in the area of management.

"It is true," concluded the member of the Political Bureau of the MPLA-Labor Party, "that we have not yet completely overcome all the impediments, but they are fixed. We know them, and everything possible is being done to continue liquidating one by one the factors impeding our revolutionary process.

13026/9435
CSO: 3442/77

BRIEFS

NEW OIL WELL IN NORTH--The Angolan Fuels Corporation (SONANGOL) announced yesterday, Wednesday, that a new oil well in the West Sulele formation with a capacity of 5,672 barrels per day was recently discovered in Block 2 of northern Angola. SONANGOL reported that the well now discovered, with a 41.3 API density, at a final depth of 2,808 meters is the first to be drilled in the course of the 2-year extension of exploration rights in this block recently granted to the TEXPRO-SONANGOL-BRASPETRO consortium by the Angolan Government. Block 2 covers an area of 4,000 square kilometers about 30 kilometers from the coast at a water depth of approximately 33 meters. Operating there are SONANGOL, with 25 percent; TEXACO on Angola Prospecting and Production (TEXPRO), with 40 percent; and PETROBRAS International Corporation (BRASPETRO), with 17.5 percent. SONANGOL announced also that additional studies to evaluate the West Sulele 1 well will be conducted to determine its development potential. [Text] Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA in Portuguese 21 Nov 85 p 1] 8711/9435

HUILA LAND DISTRIBUTION PLAN--Lubango--Under the motto, "Turn over arable farm land to those who work," the municipal authorities of Quilendes (Huila) together with the agencies of the Ministry of Agriculture in that area for several days have been conducting a campaign of distribution of underutilized arable farm land to the farmers in the area. ANGOP has learned that last Wednesday, a 40-hectare production unit called "May 1" was turned over, with each person receiving a 2.5-hectare plot; eight more production units are expected to be turned over within the next few days. For this campaign, which ends next Friday, a committee was formed, headed by Eduardo Capitango, coordinator of the department for social and productive development of the party municipal committee of Quilengues, and comprised of local officials of the Ministry of Agriculture. [Text] [Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA in Portuguese 22 Nov 85 p 12] 8711/9435

BENGO FARM PRODUCTION DECLINE--Caxito--Joao Francisco Pinto, provincial director of farm marketing (DNACA) told ANGOP that the levels of some farm products, specifically coffee, bananas, cassava, among others, are proportionately far below the levels of previous years. The DNACA, which controls 59 farm cooperatives and 95 farm associations, sought to extend its activity in locating other areas with the potential for growing coffee, bananas, cassava, "ginguba," "gingibre," "macunde"-beans, yams, sweet potatoes, and other crops, resulting in that department now assuming control of 4,638 farm

cooperatives and 6,534 farmers' associations. He said that of that number, there are currently operating: 11 farm cooperatives and 14 farmers' associations in the headquarters municipality (Dande); 26 cooperatives and 16 associations in Pango-Aluquem; 8 cooperatives and 6 associations in Kissama; 9 associations in Icolo and Bengo; 34 cooperatives and 14 associations in Kibaxe; 14 cooperatives and 12 associations in Ambraz. The others are inoperative. With regard to prospects, Joao Francisco Pinto revealed the preparation of 385 hectares for growing bananas, cassava, "macunde," beans, among other crops, in the municipalities of Dande (Xaxito, Pango-Aluquem, Bula-Atumba, Kibaxe and Nambuangongol) [Text] [Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA in Portuguese 21 Nov 85 p 3] 8711/9435

NEW SUPPLY SYSTEM SATISFACTORY--The provincial delegate of Bengo, Rufino Felgueira, considered the new supply system satisfactory and revealed that 12,000 wage-earning workers, including farm units are already under its control. In an interview with ANGOP, that official said that the delegation he directs controls 143 commercial establishments spread over eight municipalities, including hotels, pensions, restaurants and beerhalls, among others. Commenting on farm marketing, he said that the Domestic Trade Delegation has been gradually helping increase purchases, which go along with the increase of farm production. [Text] [Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA in Portuguese 21 Nov 85 p 3] 8711/9435

PARTY ASSESSES COOPERATIVE LOSSES--Lubango--The eighth regular session of the MPLA-Labor Party Provincial Committee of Huila, which opened Friday, confirmed the existence of weaknesses in the operation of farmers' cooperatives and associations and ordered the productive sector department to investigate the situation in order to arrive at conclusions aimed at restoring their activities. The party provincial committee also confirmed that the meager supply of essential goods to the farmers seeking to organize themselves has appreciably reduced their morale and enthusiasm. The participants at the meeting, which was chaired by the coordinator of the party provincial committee, Rafael Sapilinha (Sambalanga), hailed the crushing actions of the defense and security forces in the fight against the counterrevolution and repudiated the barbarity committed against workers and officials in Benguela Province. [Text] [Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA in Portuguese 21 Nov 85 p 3] 8711/9435

CUBAN TV DELEGATION VISIT--A delegation of the Cuban Radio and Television Institute has been in the city of Lubando since last Friday, returning the visit made by the delegation of Radio Nacional of Angola to the Republic of Cuba. Yesterday morning, the Cuban delegation visited the studios and local transmitter center of Radio Nacional of Angola, the facilities of TPA and the delegations of the JORNAL DE ANGOLA and the ANGOLA PRESS AGENCY. Also planned for yesterday was a trip to Leba range, where one of the largest road projects in the country was built. [Text] [Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA in Portuguese 21 Nov 85 p 3] 8711/9435

GENERAL STAFF MEETING--The Department of Organization and Mobilization of the FAPLA General Staff has been holding a methodology assessment meeting in the city of Lubango since last Tuesday. The purpose of the meeting is to hold

consultations and exchange experiences about the work of the divisions of that department in the military branches and regions as well as to analyze the result of the recruitment of the first and second training periods of 1984-1985. [Text] [Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA in Porgutuese 21 Nov 85 p 3] 8711/9435

OFFICIAL VISITS CABINDA--The vice minister of agriculture for coffee, Augusto Caetano Joao, has been in Cabinda since Thursday to become informed of the progress of the agro-technical work for the new agricultural year, which began in October. The visit by the vice minister of agriculture for coffee is associated with the aid to and supervision of the Territorial Coffee Enterprise located in the municipality of Buco-Zau. Augusto Caetano will also visit the cacao production sector and, on this occasion, will ask some questions relating to the private sector. [Text] [Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA in Portuguese 16 Nov 85 p 12] 2909

BIE OFFICIAL VISITS CAMACUPA--Kuito--A government delegation headed by the delegate from the Bie Ministry of Interior, Captain "Lightning," recently paid a visit for assistance and supervision in the municipality of Camacupa. The Ministry of Interior delegate was accompanied by the provincial prosecutor of justice, Rufino Narciso, and the sports delegate, Samuel Luis de Sousa. In Camacupa, the delegation engaged in intensive activity with that committee's executive commission and local party institutions. Also in connection with its visit, the group held a meeting with the local government organs, as well as participating in a lecture devoted to the topic "right to justice and legality," delivered by the provincial prosecutor of justice. [Text] [Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA in Portuguese 15 Nov 85 p 3] 2909

PLASTICS RAW MATERIAL SHORTAGE--Luanda--In an interview with ANGOP, Manuel Pereira de Sousa, the director general of CIPAL, an industrial unit of the National Foam and Plastics of Angola (ENEPA) Group under the Ministry of Industry, said that that company currently has a planned daily production of 9 tons of plastic articles. According to him, the factory's production capacity is double what was planned for the current year but the lack of material is the main factor preventing it from reaching its production goal. Its equipment is over 15 years old but is almost all in operating condition and despite the factors mentioned, the production unit is profitable. That official said that CIPAL's role is very important because its production supports industry, civil construction, agriculture and the population with domestic plastic articles. Pereira de Sousa added that the problem of cadres is worrisome and the enterprise has had foreign technical assistance for some years. The unit has been processing the training of its workers, both at home and abroad, mainly for the manufacturing, workshop and maintenance sectors. CIPAL, which has 336 workers, was established in 1966, was confiscated in 1980 following its abandonment by the partners and was integrated in ENEPA in 1982. [Text] [Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA in Portuguese 3 Nov 85 p 12] 8711/9435

GDR TRAINING AGREEMENT--For the past few days, a program of action in the area of the training and professional advancement of Angolan financial cadres, exchange of experience and specialized consultation has been in the process of being formalized in Luanda by officials of the Ministry of Finances and specialists of the German Democratic Republic (GDR). The task will be completed on the 26th of this month with the signing of a protocol. It should be noted that this agreement is being formalized within the framework of the existing bilateral agreements between Angola and the GDR. [Text] [Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA in Portuguese 24 Nov 85 p 12] 8711/9435

TRADE ACCORDS WITH PORTUGAL, ZIMBABWE--The international trade fair of Luanda (FILDA), which took place recently in Luanda, was rich in trade activities. As a result, two trade accords, under which Zimbabwe will supply blankets, chickens, laying hens and breeding fowl to Angola, were recently signed during the event. The first accord, which anticipates the supply of $532,500 of blankets, was signed by the general director of Importang (Angola Import Bureau) Lourenco Neto for Angola, and by the director of Zimbabwe's booth at FILDA, V. Muramwa. Participants in the second accord, which anticipates the supply of eggs and laying hens, were Lourenco Neto and Peter Saffee, director of the Zimbabwean company Crest Breeders International. It will be recalled that Thursday the Angolan minister of foreign trade, Ismael Martins, called Zimbabwe one of Angola's most important trading partners in southern Africa, ever since the historic visit of President Jose Eduardo dos Santos to that friendly country, at which time the first trade accord was established. Meanwhile, the Popular Republic of Angola plans to buy $3,800,362 worth of textiles and shoes from Portuguese firms during the first trimester of 1986, under the terms of a contract also signed during the trade fair. In accordance with the document, 158,320 pairs of shoes and 1,650,000 meters of textiles will be supplied by the Portuguese firms represented by VESPER, a Lusl-Angolan investment association. The accord was signed on the Angolan side by the general director of Importang, Lourenco Neto, and on the Portuguese side by the manager of VESPER, Eurico Corvacho. [Text] [Sourulire] 13026/9435

PORTUGAL GIVES SADCC OFFICE EQUIPMENT--Office supplies, including electronic and electric typewriters, copy machines, chairs, tables and other articles, donated to the technical and administrative unit of the energy sector of the SADCC (South African Development Coordination Conference) by the Portuguese Institute for Economic Cooperation, were officially presented yesterday afternoon in Luanda. The ambassador of the Portuguese Republic, Antonio Pinto da Franca, who presented the said material in a ceremony which took place in the offices of that sector of the SADCC, affirmed that "we have followed the growth of this technical unit since its birth, allowing us to have a knowledge of the role that Angola plays in the coordination of the energy sector of the SADCC." He added that this gesture on the part of the Portuguese government is tied to the existing base of cooperation between the two countries. In response, engineer Lopes Feio thanked him for the donation on behalf of the coordinator of the energy sector and of the workers, adding

that this will permit the technical and administrative unit of the energy sector of the SADCC to improve its material working conditions. [Text] [Sourulire] 13026/9435

AMBASSADOR ON RELATIONS WITH PORTUGAL--Lisbon--The Angolan ambassador to Lisbon, Mawete Joso Batista, said Thursday that, in order for Luso-Angolan relations to go beyond the current state of "coolness in practical matters," it is necessary to "mutually recognize our independence, auto-determination and national sovereignty." Joao Batista spoke to reporters after a meeting with the president of the Portuguese Industrial Association (AIP), Rocha de Matos, with whom he discussed the future of economic relations between the two countries. The Angolan ambassador noted the existence of a "complementarity of economic interests" between Portugal and Angola and said that, with regard to "concrete interests," we are still in the "contact stage." Joao Batista lamented the "passivity of the Portuguese government with regard to those who threaten the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Angola." "Agreement is necessary for a common future," affirmed the Angolan ambassador. The AIP president, Rocha de Matos, also noted the difficulties of businessmen with regard to the Portuguese-speaking countries, a result of a lack of "governmental framework." In business terms, "our rear-guard is not defended" affirmed Rocha de Matos. "History teaches us that most political actions pass as business actions," said Rocha de Matos, who showed himself convinced than "the governor is going to face commercial activity differently (than past governors) and is going to create the necessary politico-economic framework." [Text] [Sourulire] 13026/9435

POLITICO-CULTURAL EDUCATION IN CABINDA--Thirty students have been attending a basic course in politico-cultural training at the Party's provincial school in Bumelambuto, thirty kilometers from here. As he opened the course, which will last for 12 months, Antonio Delfina Cuty, provincial coordinator of the department for the Idealogical Sphere, expressed the importance of politico-idealogical training in learning the principles of revolutionary theory. This is the 13th course offered by the provincial school of the Cabinda Party, which was founded in May, 1977. Six hundred ninety-three students have already been trained at that educational center of the Party, whose facilities were moved from the city to the village of Bumelamuto in September, 1984. Antonio Massiala, director of the school, said that the chief difficulty of the school that he directs is the lack of an automobile to transport workers and students, and also a reduced supply of foodstuffs. [Text] [Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA in Portuguese 15 Oct 85 p 3] 12857

XIETU TO LEAVE USSR--The ex-Chief of Staff of FAPLA, Joao Luis Neto (Xietu) will probably leave the Soviet military academy where he has been studying for about 4 years in order to continue his higher military training in Yugoslavia. Incompatibilities of various kinds between the Angolan official and the faculty of the Soviet academy are said to have led President Jose Eduardo dos Santos to decide that, upon the end of Xietu's present term, he will be transferred to Belgrade. [Text] [Lisbon AFRICA JORNAL in Portuguese 6 Nov 85 p 20] 12857

OIL PRODUCTION UP--Angola is on the way to producing more than 200,000 barrels of oil daily, an increase which, it is believed, will compensate for the drop in price of crude oil, and the continued absence of other exports that produce high-level profits. Last year, oil production was at the level of 180,000 barrels per day. In 1985, new foreign firms signed exploration contracts with Sonangol, after having concluded successful feasibility studies. Among those firms are Elf-Aquitaine and Agip. Mobil, which will sell to Sonangol its rights to domestic sales, now is part of the entrepreneurial group at the Palanca field. CABGOC, a subsidiary of Gulf Oil acquired by Chevron, con tinues to be the principal foreign producer. [Text] [Luanda AFRICA JORNAL in Portuguese 20 Nov 85 p 23] 12857

JMPLA-CUBAN YOUTH MEET IN LUBANGO--A friendship workshop called "Camilo Che" involving the Cuban Communist Youth Union and the JMPLA-Party Youth, which celebrates the sixth anniversary of the transformation of the JMPLA from the organization of the masses to the youth organization, and the 25th anniversary of the integration of the Cuban youth movement begins in this city starting tomorrow, and will last until the 22nd of this month. The workshop, which will deepen the friendly relations and the militant solidarity of the peoples and the brother parties, natural allies in the anti-imperialist battle, will bring together hundreds of young Angolans and Cuban internationalists who are here to carry out their international mission. The objectives of the workshop are a mutual awareness of political, social, and cultural realities of the respective countries through an exchange of experiences, points of view, and opinions. The increased strengthening of the friendship and solidarity among the young soldiers of FAPLA and FAR in their honorable battle to defend the spoils of the revolution and the causes of other peoples of the brotherhood are also among the objectives set for the workshop. Its aim is to demonstrate the decisive support of both youth organizations for the revolutionary processes under way in our country and in the Republic of Cuba. In this way, they show the firmness of purpose in continuing to fight toward the realization of the objectives outlined by the Communist Party of Cuba and by the MPLA-Workers Party in the construction of socialism in the two countries. During the workshop, the youths of the two countries will visit economic and social units, military units, and training and living establishments, where they will make political presentations covering various themes. The promotion of voluntary work at the site of the Namibe Railroad, sports competitions with the labor, student, and military youth, musical-cultural activities, and visits to historical and cultural cen ters will comprise parts of the workshop, which is awaited with great enthusiasm by the youth of both countries. [Text] [Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA in Portuguese 15 Oct 85 p 3] 12857

10 YEARS OF INDEPENDENCE, 10 YEARS OF WAR ON POVERTY

Niamey SAHEL DIMANCHE in French 29 Sep 85 pp 4,5

[Article by Indimama Kotoudi: "Back From Cape Verde, Part 2]

[Text] Of all the member countries of the Inter-State Committee to fight drought in the Sahel, the Cape Verde archipelago is certainly nature's number-one stepchild: it has not rained here for more than 10 years, although it is essentially a land of farms and pastureland. This country has survived a barrage of droughts over the course of the century that has brought death to 200,000 of its people, and forced the survivors into exile: 700,000 Cape Verdians live elsewhere, as opposed to 300,000 of them still clinging to their native land scattered across the 4,033 square kilomaters that form its islands (see preceding article). Last July, the country celebrated its 10th anniversary of independence. A decade of all-out war on poverty. And already there ample cause for rejoicing.

Cape Verde Prime Minister Pedro Pires often asserts his conviction that his country has a mission to perform: to pick up the challenge that is poverty, to show the whole world that it is anything but a casualty in that war.

On Cape Verde, there are a thousand ways to work in that direction. Because there are neither mineral resources nor rains, the sole solution lies in the people's love of work. Government officials set the example: every official you talk to gives you the impression the the entire future of the country rests on his shoulders, and his alone: his personal responsibility. At this time of year especially, it is hard to find a Rural Development bureau chief in his office. They are all out in the field. Furthermore, under a decision made last year,the entire upper echelon of this super-ministry has been transferred to the "boondocks."

That same decision precipitated the move of the Agrarian Studies Center to a site 30 kilometers from Praia. Squeezed into a vise formed by the Antonia peak (the highest mountain on the island) and an enormous ravine, this Institute is working hard at uncovering

the myriad secrets of their soils and vegetation, with the aim of enabling the peasants to make a living in their fiercely hostile environment.

Established only in 1980, the CEA is already emerging as an essential factor in Cape Verde's strategy for rural development. That is evident in two basic sectors: research and training.

For research, the main target is to master the national boundaries of agro-climatology and to develop an agricultural plan that will fit into them, and, secondly, to do the same thing for the cattle-growers. The entire combined operation is based on socio-economic surveys conducted in the rural areas. In the second place, the CEA operates a training division, through which the peasants are introduced to modern production techniques, including proper utilization of selected seed-grains and pesticides.

High Intensity: Will the MDR Take Over the Peasants?

Cape Verde manufactures its own pesticides, which might be called altogether fitting for this country where in 1967 there was such a massive invasion of crop pests that head-counts revealed 200,000 rate per hectare!

The pesticide plant, only 4 kilometers outside Praia, was completed in 1979, with the help of Germany's GTZ. Today, it provides practically all the islands with the products they need to control locusts and other crop-spoilers. Clearly, the lack of rainfall is but one of the threats the country is trying to get rid of.

That will be no easy task because, in this archipelago, surface-water is all but non-existent and the water-table lies very far below the surface. Consequently, there are no peasants interested in raising off-season crops, in the Nigerien sense of that term. Between two mountains, there are drilled wells that use the winds to pump up water for the fields. Over the whole reach of the islands, nearly 15,000 dams have been built in the past 10 years to catch and retain the rainfall.

As a rule, the dams are built during the dry season, as part of what is called the "high-intensity program."

There is a lot of history behind all this. To understand it, you must first discover that unemployment is close to 32 percent of the working-age population of Cape Verde; even so, it is far more acute in the rural areas where there is by no means an abundance of arable land. The high-intensity program stems from this fact. Every year, the authorities set up hundreds of work-sites (for dam-building, or reforestation) where country people are put to work at the rate of one man from each family in the surrounding area. Thanks to this, the peasants are experiencing a kind of

bootstrap development through these public works that will certainly benefit them, and, on the other side of the coin, the wages they earn will enable them to meet the needs of their families. The wages are, of course, modest, but they are indexed to the cost of living. That cost is not high, and in order to keep it as low as possible, the peasants buy their provisions at the cooperative store. There is a co-op store in every village, and so far there is no sign of inflation (which state subsidies nearly eliminate), nor do the co-ops run out of staple products.

The cooperative movement in Cape Verde has become such a well-oiled machine that the peasants cannot imagine anything else. A national fund supports the system and its tank-trucks often come to Praia to take on drinking-water for distribution in the country areas. At a lower level, the peasants are beginning to strengthen their "cooperation" through ideas of their own. Accordingly, during periods of "high intensity," they are willing to spend their earnings of five working-days out of six on what they need to live. The sixth day's wages go into the community fund, which will use them to build a school, for instance, in a year, or two, or three.

"Mimosa-Men" Brave the Mountains

"Please don't ask me to define our farm policy. What we have here is more of a rural development policy," said Rural Development Minister Joao Pereira Silva, in a voice verging on solemnity as he patiently explained that his department is actually a super-ministry endowed with human, logistical, and institutional resources unimaginable in a country as small and as poor as his. Since its independence in 1975, Cape Verde's MDR has swallowed a yearly average of the national investment budget amounting to 23 percent. A lot of coutries with long histories of agriculture make do with half of that.

The money goes primarily into public works designed to halt erosion (soil and water conservation), into research and training, into stabilizing the prices of basic food commodities, and, of course, into wages during high-intensity projects

Most of these latter projects center on reforestation, a huge program that in 10 years has made the landscape on Cape Verde a little less desolate.

Since independence, 9 million trees have been planted on 21,000 hectares of Cape Verde's 4,033 square kilometers. Until now, there were trees on only 3,900 hectares!

The species most often used here is the thorny mimosa we all know so well. Each year, as winter approaches, the MDR readies the soil and settles back to wait for the rains. All citizens are summoned to the planting, and from 1979 to 1984, the average has been some 2 million plants per year.

It is indeed an astonishing sight to see these thousands of trees -- some big, some still small -- that seem to challenge the mountain-peaks. Heartened by the lovely sight, Cape Verdeans these days plant and care for trees almost spontaneously. What is more, on Mindelo (Saint Vincent's island), benevolent reforestation societies undeterred by rock to be broken or lack of rain, have sprung up. Cape Verde's success with reforestation has awakened emulation across the region: the neighboring Senegalese cast the occasional envious eye upon at it, mainly to correct their own aim. Further away and mote officially, Burkina Faso has sent some of its own forestry people for training in Cape Verde. Benin did the same thing, only earlier.

In a way, this is a tribute to this Archipelago, some portions of which have once again become verdant and lovely. That is what has happened on Curralhino, on Santiago Island, which is also the loftiest of the islands (4,800 meters on the average). Curralinho today is a true forest, and can now boast the country's loveliest climate. The air here is so fresh that President Pereira has had a little house built for himself on the mountain where he goes from time to time for rest and relaxation. All Cape Verdians dream of doing likewise, but that is not so easily done: Why? Because the forest cloaks the highly sophisticated and very costly international telecommunications center, built by NATO prior to independence, then bequeathed to the infant State.

So Much Still to be Done!

For all intents and purposes, reforestation is one of the government's top priorities, to the point where, in agriculture, there is no salvation save in soil regeneration. On some of the islands the goal is already a living, breathing reality because Cape Verde is self-sufficient in animal products and an exporter of bananas. Banana exports are the country's number-3 source of revenue, lagging behind number one (remittances from citizens abroad) and the "non-aligned" operation of the Amilcar Cabral de Sal International Airport. Despite all this, the trade deficit continues to wallow sullenly in an inertia as chronic as it is deep.

Now, more than ever, the food situation is worrisome. All that cossetting from heaven which has benefitted certain countries in the Sahel have not even skirted Cape Verde, except for a handful of very small regions. On Fogo Island they have reported practically no rainfall, and this has been routine for the past 10 years. And on that forsaken island, they have, in all, only 16 hectares of irrigable land! In proportion to its size, it has just about the same situation as that of the islands of San Vincente and San Antao.

And yet, as always, international aid will move in en masse to remedy the food-shortage. Thus far, it has never failed, because donors have admired the way in which their aid is managed or distributed. Even more, they admire the country's determination to break out of the strait-jacket of poverty.

6182

CSO: 3419/114

NEW FANT CHIEF OF STAFF NAMED

Ndjamena AL-WATAN in French 7 Dec 85 pp 10-11

[Text] The Chadian National Armed Forces (FANT) met their new chief of staff, Comrade Hassan Djamouss, on Saturday, 9 November 1985.

This senior officer replaces Idriss Deby as head of our armed forces. Ndilnodji Guelhor, minister delegate to the presidency in charge of defense, veterans and war victims, presided over Comrade Hassan Djamouss' installation ceremony. The minister of defense spoke to the members of the UNIR [National Union for Independence and Revolution] Central Committee, of the government and of the National Consultative Council and to the officers and non-commissioned officers: "Officers, non-commissioned officers and men of the Chadian National Armed Forces, from this day on, you will recognize Comrade Hassan Djamouss as your chief and you will obey everything he will order for the good of the service, the implementation of military rules, the observance of the laws and the success of Chad's army." Ndilnodji also handed him the blue and gold-red banner, the symbol of his assuming the FANT command.

Attending officials then reviewed an impeccable parade in which participated cadet officers in their blue uniforms, prep-school children and detachments from the Army, the Military Police and the Air Force, not forgetting the FANT "Prefates." The new chief of staff, Hassan Djamouss Mahamat, was born around 1956 in Ourda, in the sub-prefecture of Iriba in the Biltine. He went to elementary school in Iriba and entered the Bâ-Illi Technical Agricultural Lycée in 1970; he graduated in 1975 as a technical agricultural agent. Upon graduation, Comrade Hassan Djamouss was assigned to Amtimam in the Salamat where he supervised the "750,000 Tons of Cotton Operation." He worked with the Ndjamena ONDR [Chadian National Office for Rural Development] Supply and Logistics Service from 1976 to 1977. At that time, he interrupted his activities and joined the guerrillas. Appointed by his companions technical commissioner for agriculture and livestock, he handled the development of market gardening in the BET [Bourkou-Ennedi-Tibesti]. A member of the Northern Armed Forces Command Council (CCFAN), he became assistant commissioner for agriculture in 1979. Following the Wadi Barid Congress, Hassan Djamouss became assistant commissioner for inspection and control.

From 7 June 1982 until his new assignement as FANT chief of staff, Hassan Djamouss was in turn minister of public works, mining and petroleum and minister of civil service.

6857
CSO: 3419/179

FRENCH-SPEAKING LEADERS CONCERNED OVER LIBYAN BUILDUP

Ndjamena INFO TCHAD in French 12 Dec 85 p 1

[Text] This year, as in previous ones, Chad will again be on everybody's mind when the 12th French-African Summit, which began yesterday with a meeting of the French-speaking chiefs of state, formally opens today.

The growing debts and economic situation of the African countries were discussed during the first meeting in which Hissein Habre, the president of the republic, republic participated, but, more than anything else, President Mitterrand and his guests discussed the situation in Chad and their preoccupation over a new Libyan escalation. President Habre had announced during a press conference held the day before that Libya was carrying out large-scale military maneuvers with troops, equipment and flights over our territory. He briefed his peers at length on the development of this situation which could be the prelude of a new Tripoli offensive against our territory.

President Mitterrand reassured President Habre on this subject during the limited working meeting of the French-speaking chiefs of state. He earnestly pointed out that France would not accept a "policy of aggressiveness" to challenge the balance in Chad. The French-speaking chiefs of state gathered around the French president also heard President Abdou Diouf speak about his recent talks with Qadhdhafi and President Denis Sassou Nguesso, about his attempts at reconciliation with Chad.

Whereas the possibility of settling the Chadian conflict is being discussed in Paris, Qadhdhafi is pursuing his African campaign in Burkina Faso where he recently proposed an alliance to Captain Sankara who stayed away from the French-African summit. The Tripoli colonel went into his usual tirade against France but the Libyan diplomatic offensive attempting to win African endorsement for his expansionist designs is a serious indication of Qadhdhafi's will to revitalize his war machine. He is obviously looking for alibis to justify a new military adventure and the reinforcement of his dispositions in the BET [Bourkou-Ennedi-Tibesti] clearly shows his intentions. Will Qadhdhafi heed the French warnings? Nothing is less sure and it is more than ever desirable that the chiefs of state of France and Africa understand the need to uphold our country in a decisive manner in order to solve the main problem threatening its existence, namely, the annexation of half of its territory and Libya's avowed threats of destabilization.

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CSO: 3419/179

BRIEFS

LIBYAN OCCUPATION DENOUNCED--If calm has once again returned to the southern part of the country where, there too, Qadhdhafi tried to light up the fire of hate, the same is not true further north, in the zones occupied by the Libyan troops. We know that thousands, over 10,000 refugees in Central Africa, have returned to their country over the past few weeks. And the movement continues as the situation steadily improves. On the other hand, there is no positive change in the Libyan zones of occupation except for the unceasing reinforcement of the Libyan military machine and the brigading of the populations, which increases every day. In order to camouflage this situation, the madman of Libya announced last week through the JANA Press Agency that President Hissein Habre had sent him a "written message." No one is fooled. The "message" is obvious, too obvious. National week, in any case, began well. Just as we are writing this "Notes of the Occupation," the dialog between a large Chadian delegation and one from the CDR [Committee for the Defense of the Revolution]-Coordination and Action Committee [CAC] opposition is being resumed in Libreville. Everything has been done by the government to bring the meeting to a successful conclusion. National interests calls for unity and political courage before the Libyan threat. The CRD-CAC proved that it does not much appreciate the annexation of our country by Libya abetted by an accomplice group of stateless people. The CDR-CAC must go further than this declaration of intent and show Libreville that nothing is impossible for the country. As the Anglo-Saxons would say, "My country, right or wrong." [Text] [Ndjamena AL-WATAN in French 7 Dec 85 pp 11, 19] 6857

CSO: 3419/179

PERFORMANCE, PLANS FOR GOLD MINING, PRODUCTION EXPLAINED

Accra PEOPLE'S DAILY GRAPHIC in English 11 Dec 85 p 3

[Article by K. Abaka Quansah]

[Text] Indicators on our export trade give a clear picture of the level to which the economy has sunk in recent years.

Low output levels of cocoa, minerals and timber coupled with low commodity prices on the world market account for low returns from exports.

While it is true that we cannot dictate price movements on the world commodity markets, we can raise the revenue from exports by raising output levels of our traditional export commodities on the one hand and on the other hand, start an aggressive export drive for the non-traditional commodities.

Appropriately, the government's program for economic rejuvenation hinges on the rehabilitation of the foreign exchange earning sectors of the economy.

Out-Put

Towards this end, huge sums of money, both in foreign currency and in cedis, have been allocated to the export-oriented sectors of the economy within the last three years.

Raising output in the mining sector is one of the cardinal objectives of the economic recovery programme.

The mining sector is second to cocoa in terms of sectorial contributions to the nation's foreign trade revenue.

The sector's share of total export earnings in 1966 was 22 per cent. In 1970, its share plummetted up 10 per cent, and moved up again to 15 per cent in 1972. Within the last decade, mining has contributed between 10 and 15 per cent of our foreign trade revenue per annum.

While gold, bauxite, manganese and diamonds are the main minerals produced and exported by Ghana, gold is by far the most important mineral, amounting for over 80 percent of the mining sector's contribution to foreign exchange earnings.

In recent times, gold output has followed the general trend of the national economy.

From an output level of 22.5 tons in 1972, gold production declined at an annual rate of 7 per cent to 10.2 tons in 1982.

Shortages of equipment and spare parts, non availability of essential chemicals for extracting gold, gold thefts, and an over-valued cedi generated low liquidity base were some of the major factors that militated against increased production and profitability.

The State Gold Mining Corporation (SGMC) has been particularly afflicted by the problem of availability of ore reserves, both in tonnage and ore content.

The first phase of the recovery programme is aimed at arresting the decline in minerals output, and laying a foundation for increased production.

In tune with this objective, and under the government's export rehabilitation programme, financing for equipment, spares and services has been streamlined.

A system of automatic retention of a portion of export earnings constitutes the main element of an export incentive package.

Under this system, Ashanti Goldfields Corporation (AGC) retains 45 percent of its export earnings in an external account, while the SGMC retains 35 per cent.

Automatic retention circumvents the old regime under which delays in the granting of import licences created production problems for the mining companies.

Earnings so retained can be used to finance the importation of machinery, spares, and essential inputs, as well as for meeting the external monetary obligations of the mining establishments.

The adjustment of the parity rate of the cedi to the dollar has had salient effects on the operations of the mining companies.

With more cedis for an ounce of gold produced, the Ashanti Goldfields Corporation, and to a lesser extent the SGMC, are finding it easier meeting their cedi-denominated financial obligations.

In spite of the adjusted cedi-dollar rate, the SGMC is still enmeshed within a web of financial constraints due to its low liquidity base. Currently it is owing financial institutions to the tune of about 800 million cedis, and it is obvious that only a full bail-out, with extra funds to strengthen its capital base will pull it out of the doldrums.

On the other hand, an IDA loan of about 26 million planned to be injected into the SGMC for the importation of machinery and spare parts has not gone through, due to hitches connected with the implementation of a management contract the SGMC has signed with a Canadian management firm.

The implementation of the recovery programme has on the whole, culminated in the halting of the decline in the gold industry through increases in output have not been as encouraging as originally anticipated.

Projection

In 1984, gold output increased by 3 per cent over the figure for 1983, and this year it is projected that gold output will increase by 7 per cent, compared with the figure for 1984.

Without doubt, our short term option for increased export earning in the gold sub-sector hinges on rehabilitation of the mines, as well as strengthening the capital base of the mining companies, particularly the State Gold Mining Corporation.

In the long run, however, exporting gold in a processed form appears to be the only option in our bid to raise our export earnings.

It is in the light of the need to raise the value added to the gold sub-sector that we have to take a second look at the Tarkwa Gold Refinery.

Capacity

The gold refinery has a rated capacity for the refining of 34 tons of gold per annum. On completion, it will be the only gold refinery in Africa, South of the Sahara.

At the time of its abandonment in the wake of the 1966 coup d-etat, the civil job was 90 per cent completed, while the electrical engineering and process engineering jobs were 60 per cent and 50 per cent completed respectively.

Recent estimates indicate that we need to expend about a quarter of a million dollars to bring the refining gold locally will [as published] And while we are wavering as to the viability or notherwise of the project, we are spending about a million dollars a year to refine our gold in Western Europe. [as published]

Quite apart from the fact that refining gold locally will raise the value added of our gold output, refining gold locally will also make it possible for Ghana to retain physical possession of her gold.

The refined gold will constitute the country's main reserve and will form a base to defend the parity rate of the cedi.

While it is true that our present level of gold output is well below the rated capacity of the refinery, it is indefensible that we wait till the day we raise our output appreciably before deciding to rehabilitate the refinery.

We do not aim at producing 300,000 ounces of gold forever. We aim at producing about 2 million ounces of gold per year in the very near future. And it is appropriate that we rehabilitate the refinery in anticipation of the day our objective of producing over 2 million ounces of gold will be achieved.

Given that the refinery will on completion be the only one in Black Africa, it will be possible to raise the utilization capacity of the plan during the period of low gold output through refining the output of other gold producing African countries.

Costs are not static. If we waffle in taking a decision to-day as to completing the refinery now with full knowledge that we will eventually complete it manana, then the dill-dallying only implies that we prefer spending a higher sum tomorrow for a piece of work which can be executed to-day for a fraction of tomorrow's costs.

The time has come to take another look at the refinery, for it remains today, as it was in 1966, the only viable means of raising the nation's revenue from gold production as well as providing a base for a better parity rate of the cedi vis-a-vis the major convertible currencies.

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CSO: 3400/879

PNDC MEMBERS CONTINUE 'MEET THE PEOPLE' TOURS

Accra PEOPLE'S DAILY GRAPHIC in English 16 Dec 85 pp 4/5

[Text]

MEMBERS of the PNDC continued their "Meet the People" tour in various regions at the weekend.

From Half Assini, Fiifi Mensah reports Mrs Aanaa Enin as saying that the PNDC Government is working out modalities for properly constituted district councils which are autonomous and well financed to help in the development of the rural areas.

She was addressing a durbar of chiefs and people of Half Assini at the final stage of her tour of the Western Region.

In his address, the Omanhene of Western Nzema, Awulae Annor Adjaye II, called for more emphasis to be placed on rural development.

The PNDC member after the durbar visited the Jaway Wharf and went on an hour's cruise on the River Juen which serves as the boundry between Ivory Coast and Ghana. She also visited the Co-operative Copra Farmers Service Centre.

During the tour she visited Tarkwa, Nsuta, Sefwi Wiawso, Asankragwa, Enchi, Yakaase and Omanpe where she walked five miles through the forest to the banks of River Boin, the boundry with the Ivory Coast and inspected some routes used by smugglers.

At Nsuta she praised workers of the Ghana National Manganese Corporation (GNMC) for their positive contribution in increasing productivity at the mines.

At Simpa she joined the people to undertake communal labour in the construction of a KVIP toilet.

From Assin Asampanaye in the Central Region, the GNA reports that Alhaji Mahama Iddrisu, joined the people to mould blocks for the construction of a new premises for the local community day secondary school.

Alhaji Iddrisu promised to be directly responsible for the supply of materials for the project which would comprise 10 classrooms, one master's bungalow, a library, a science and administration blocks.

The school, which was started at the beginning of this academic year with 120 students is at present accommodated in the local middle school building.

According to Mr Kwadwo Ampomah, Secretary for Assin, the people will finance the project through a levy, harvests, voluntary donations and proceeds from their community farm.

He said the people had already raised 150,000 cedis towards the project which is expected to be completed in six years.

From Tamale, Ayikwei Armah reports that Mr Justice D. F. Annan, assured Ghanaians that there will be real material progress in economic development of the country to the benefit of Ghanaians within the next three years.

This is because of the policies and measures the PNDC has taken to revamp the economy.

Speaking at a meeting with heads of government departments, corporations, and workers at the Tamale Cultural Centre on Friday, Mr Justice Annan said, "we have not come to do propaganga, we have come to tell you about the real essence of development which is production".

Touching on the political destiny of the country, Mr Justice Annan said the government has set up two machineries namely, the National Commission for Democracy (NCD) and Committees for the Defence of the Revolution (CDRs) to see to an orderly, social and political development of the country.

These two establishments, he noted, are to look for procedural development rather than faults.

He said elections are not the same thing as democracy says that "Democracy is not what you get but what you do".

Mr Justice Annan said the constitutional development of the country which was left in the hands of few persons in the past was what created the political instability in the country.

He told a questioner that the retrenchment exercise at the COCOBOD was not part of an IMF deal for loans but was the result of the decline in the economy.

Mr Justice Annan whose visit took him to Moglaa, Dalom, Tolon, Gambaga, Bimbilla and Damongo noted that housing and primary health care which featured in the primary needs of the people are on the top priority list of the PNDC's plan to rehabilitate the economy.

The function was chaired by the Regional Secretary, Mr Huudu Yahaya who also told a questioner that the PNDC was not demanding an excessive percentage in the contract for the petroleum exploitation in the country.

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CSO: 3400/880

IRAN PLEDGES ASSISTANCE, OIL AT FAVORABLE TERMS

Accra PEOPLE'S DAILY GRAPHIC in English 16 Dec 85 p 8

[Article by Breda Alta-Quayson]

[Text] Iran is ready to give unconditional assistance to Ghana in her economic recovery effort, Mr M. Besharati, First Deputy Foreign Minister has indicated in Accra.

Mr Besharati who led a five-man Iranian delegation to the country said Iran would supply oil and other facilities to Ghana under very favourable terms.

Mr Besharati, was speaking to the press after he had delivered a special message from the Iranian President, Ali Khameneito and Chairman of the PNDC, Flt-Lt. Jerry John Rawlings at the Castle Osu at the weekend.

The content of the message was not disclosed but Mr Besharati hinted that it bordered on bilateral relations between Ghana and Iran.

Mr Besharati recalled the visit of an Iranian delegation from its Ministry of Rural Development to Ghana and added that his country would like to share the experiences of 25,000 villages in Iran with Ghana.

The Iranian Minister said Iran has a lot of resources like oil and liquid gas which could be used to help a country like Ghana.

He said Iran supports Ghana because both countries are non-aligned and are fighting a common enemy--imperialism.

Mr Behsarati stated that Iran would support Ghana in the fight against imperialism and underdevelopment.

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CSO: 3400/888

HYDRO-ELECTRIC DAM EQUIPMENT FROM INDIA

Accra PEOPLE'S DAILY GRAPHIC in English 17 Dec 85 p 1

[Article by Tim Dzamboe]

[Text] Equipment worth 13.2 million cedis for the first mini-hydro electric dam at Likpe-Kukurantumi in the Volta Region have arrived in the country from India and work on the dam is expected to start early next year.

The equipment have been brought in under a Ghana-India agreement on national rural electrification programme.

Disclosing this to the Graphic yesterday, a reliable source at the Architectural and Engineering Services Corporation (AESC) said areas which may need specialised construction would be performed by specialised agencies. Such areas are the construction of the power house, installation of turbines, generators and transmission lines.

The source further said the local people will be expected to provide communal labour in certain aspects of construction but this would be scheduled such that farming and other economic activities are not disturbed.

A total of 400 kilowatts (KW) is expected to be generated and the first phase of the project in which 100 KW will be generated, is expected to be completed by the end of next year.

As part of the project initiated three years ago by the local people through communal labour, a weir (cofferdam) has been constructed to assist in the confirmation of hydrological data and other studies carried out by the AESC.

Twelve villages are partaking in the construction of the dam and have been advised to make necessary arrangements for the erection of poles and other electrical parts in their various villages.

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CSO: 3400/888

CANADIAN MINING GROUP ARRIVES, PROJECT FINANCING

Accra PEOPLE'S DAILY GRAPHIC in English 17 Dec 85 p 1

[Article by Wendy Asiama]

[Text]

THE first group of experts from the Canada-Ghana Mining Group (CGMG) have arrived in the country to begin work on the rehabilitation of the State Gold Mining Corporation (SGMC).

Their arrival follows the fulfilment of certain pre-conditions spelt out in the agreement establishing the Canada-Ghana Mining Group the contractors who are carrying out the rehabilitation work in the SGMC mines. More experts are expected to arrive in the country soon for the rehabilitation.

The fulfilled pre-conditions include the execution of a performance bond, an advance payment of initial sum of money by the SGMC to the CGMC as agreed by the International Development Association (IDA) and the meeting of conditions for determining the effective date for work to start.

The World Bank, through its affiliate, the International Development Association (IDA), is providing 30 million dollars soft loan for the rehabilitation of the SGMC.

Under the agreement, CGMC is to re-organise and take full management control of the Tarkwa, Prestea and Dunkwa mines. The loan is payable in 50 years with 10 years grace period.

Making these disclosures in an interview in Accra yesterday, SGMC sources said since the arrival of the expert group in the country in October this year, they have been able to identify the initial inputs needed for the rehabilitation exercise.

To this end, the SGMC has ordered for some of the required inputs to carry out the work and in the next few weeks, they expect the bulk of the required inputs to arrive.

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CSO: 3400/879

GOVERNMENT VOTES ROAD MAINTENANCE ALLOCATIONS

Accra PEOPLE'S DAILY GRAPHIC in English 19 Dec 85 p 1

[Article by Wendy Asiama]

[Text] The government has voted ¢1.8 billion under the 1986 budget for road maintenance throughout the country.

The project which falls under the Fourth Highway Project will exclude road development and rather concentrate on the rehabilitation of existing trunk, urban and feeder roads in the major food, mineral and timber producing areas.

Under the project, priority will be given to the rehabilitation of feeder roads in areas with very high production levels, population density but low accessibility.

Out of the amount 316 million cedis has been voted for feeder roads while the remaining will be allocated to the Ghana Highway Authority for trunk and urban roads maintenance.

The project which is under a three year national programme of feeder roads rehabilitation starts from 1986 to 1988.

According to sources at the Department of Feeder Roads, since the department cannot tackle the rehabilitation of all the 14,000 kilometres of roads due to scarcity of resources, they will tackle the priority areas in the Goaso-Sefwi/Wiawso-Bekwai-Obuasi Corridors where there is a lot of wealth but low accessibility.

This area with a total feeder road network of over 1,946 kilometres and a high production, population and low accessibility will be tackled first.

Under the project, the country has been divided into 32 road districts according to the extent and urgency of their feeder road rehabilitation needs.

Nine districts comprising Sunyani, Cape Coast, Kumasi, Hohoe, Wiawso, Bekwai, Mampong, Kintampo and Tarkwa come under priority class 'A' where roads will be tackled first.

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CSO: 3400/888

MANGANESE PRODUCTIVITY, LABOR RELATIONS AT MINES

Accra PEOPLE'S DAILY GRAPHIC in English 18 Dec 85 p 1

[Text] Ghana National Manganese Corporation's (GNMC) dividend to the government is expected to shoot up from two million cedis last year to 10 million cedis this year.

Dr Albert Owusu Barnafoo, Managing Director of the corporation, announced this at a workers' rally organised in honour of Mrs Aanaa Enin, member of PNDC at Nsuta Wassa on Sunday as part of a week's tour of the Western Region.

According to Dr Barnafoo, the corporation was able to produce 306,916 tons of various grades of ore this year.

He said sales of manganese this year totalled 250,000 tons.

The managing director mentioned that there were shortfalls in shipment of ore this year and attributed it to the failure of Romanian buyers to lift the cargoes agreed in the sales contract on time.

Dr Barnafoo was happy that industrial harmony exists between the management and workers at the mines.

In an address, Mrs Enin commended the corporation on its achievements and expressed the hope that other corporations would take a cue from GNMC's example.

She assured the management and workers of the corporation that the doors of the government are open to them for interaction.

Mrs Enin wished GNMC more laurels in the ensuing years.

In his contribution, Dr E. G. A. Don-Arthur, Western Regional Secretary, observed that despite the corporation's achievements it lost some man-hours due to activities of some misguided elements among the work-force.

/9274
CSO: 3400/879

IMPORTANCE OF TIMBER INDUSTRY FOR ECONOMY HIGHLIGHTED

Accra PEOPLE'S DAILY GRAPHIC in English 18 Dec 85 p 5

[Article by K. Abaka Quansah]

[Text] The timber industry ranks third after cocoa and minerals in terms of contributions to the nation's export earnings.

However, revenue from the timber industry has shown a downward trend since the early 1970s.

In 1973, the timber industry contributed 130 million dollars to the nation's export earnings. The figure dropped by about 90 per cent of 16 million dollars in 1982.

Further, the industry's share of export earnings dropped from about 18 per cent in 1972 to under two per cent in 1982.

Policies

The production crisis which beset the timber industry after the early 1970s was due to a jumble of economic and political policies and situations.

High on the list of factors which contributed to the decline and virtual strangulation of the timber industry was the overvaluation of the cedi.

The unrealistic rate of the cedi to the dollar, and therefore to the other convertible currencies, led to a situation which made it impossible for timber exporters to make their operational costs from their export proceeds.

By and large, the over-valuation condition set in motion a chain of smuggling activities in timber and timber products to the neighbouring countries.

Huge sums of money in foreign currency which should have accrued to the nation found their way into the pockets of smugglers and their local and foreign collaborators.

Another factor which contributed to the decline was the poor state of Ghana's railways and roads networks.

Traditionally, forest products intended for export have been moved by rail to the ports, mainly the Takoradi port. The poor state of the Western lines led to an increased volume of logs and timber being transported to the port by trucks.

But the raods were no better. The bad condition of the roads raised the costs producers incurred in sending their produce to the ports. This situation gnawed at their profits, and generally reduced their ability to increase production.

Conditions at the ports were no better than that of the roads and the Western lines. With particular reference to the Takoradi port, there were very few tugs and lighters for operations. Cranes were very old and were constanting breaking down.

Producers

Generally, every facility vital to the smooth handling of exports and imports had either completely broken down or was on the verge of breaking down.

At the production centres, producers had to make do with obsolete machinery. Spare parts were in short supply and accessories and other materials necessary for higher output were just not available.

Nearer home, the Timber Marketing Board played no mean role in generating the malaise which nearly crippled the timber trade.

More often than not, the Board issued and implemented guidelines which were, to say the least, to the detriment of loggers and other producers.

One of the Board's guidelines was that it had to approve any contract before wood and wood products could be processed locally or exported. It also set up price floors, below which contracts automatically became null and void.

Price floors were set without any consideration for variations in quality, quantity and specifications.

If and when contract prices deviated from the Board's guideline approval of contract was withheld by the Board. The time lag that usually followed disapprovals and their resolution frequently led to foreign buyers going elsewhere, with a consequent loss of export markets to the local producer in particular, and the national economy in general.

On the other hand timber producers were too decimated years after the Ghana Cooperative Timber Producers Association had been witch-hunted out of existence in the wake of the 1966 coup de-etat, to protect their interests with the same united front against the negative policies of the Board like they used to do in the days of the Co-operative Producers Association.

The economic recovery programme aims at extirpating the conditions that contributed to the decline in the timber industry, and more specifically at raising production through the rehabilitation of selected firms.

To the extent that the government wishes to put the timber industry back to its position as the major foreign exchange earning sector it was in the early 1970s, a lot of policy guidelines aimed at resuscitating the sector have been implemented.

The readjustment of the cedi-dollar rate has made it possible for timber producers to make enough money to meet the cedi-denominated portions of their operational costs, and still make some profits to enable them expand their businesses.

Further, the PNDC guideline on the export sector allows timber producers to retain 20 per cent of their export earnings in external accounts, to be used to finance imports of machinery, spare parts and accessories, so as to circumvent the rambling processes involved in import licence applications and letters of credit establishments.

Furthermore, a loan of 23.6 million dollars granted by the International Development Agency (IDA) for the rehabilitation of the timber industry has now been released. Another loan of 9 million dollars has been granted for the rehabilitation of the Samreboi-based African Timber and Plywoods, and Gleiksten Limited by the Arab Development Bank.

Yet another 7 million dollar loan is in the pipeline for rehabilitation work at the Tankoradi Veneer and Lumber Company and Mim Timbers.

But rehabilitation of the timber sector will not yield much dividends unless there is a corresponding improvement in the operations of the Railway Corporation.

Loan

Consequently, the government has negotiated a World Bank/African Development Bank loan of 42 million dollars for the improvement of the Western lines. Work on the lines has progressed appreciably, and it is expected that rehabilitation work will have been completed by the end of 1986.

Another rehabilitation exercise is going on at the ports with a view to bringing facilities there to modern standards.

Rehabilitation of facilities at the ports will enhance operatons, reduce turn-around time of ships, and generally raise exports.

The government has with a view to removing the constraints of the marketing of timber and its products, dissolved the Ghana Timber Marketing Board.

In its place, two organisations, the Timber Exports Development Board (TEDB) and the Forest Products Inspection Bureau (FPIB) have been established.

On the one hand, the TEDB is to operate as a market promotion and advisory Board. It is expected to collate and disseminate to timber producers and exporters, data on species, export markets, current world prices, export prospects and opportunities.

The FPIB on the other hand, is to oversee all functions of grading timber and timber products. It has the duty of establishing grading rules, facilitating operations, and checking fraudulent deals.

In order to build a solid front for producers and exporters of wood and its products and to raise production and productivity, timber producers and exporters are to be encouraged to form a timber products marketing co-operative society. The TEDB is expected to provide the initial technical help needed to implement this guideline.

The implementation of the recovery guidelines has engendered a halt in the decline of the output of the timber industry.

In 1984, exports of timber and timber products increased by 24 per cent relative to 1983. It is estimated that by the end of the year, exports of timber and its products will have increased by 30 per cent compared with the figure for 1983.

Further, earnings on the export of timber and its products is expected to show an increase of over 87 per cent this year, using 1983 as the base year, from 16 million dollars to 30 million dollars.

Admittedly, the achievements made within the past two years have been by all standards, modest. But considering that given the level of decay in the industry, there is bound to be some time lag between rehabilitation and increases in production, the modest achievements should be taken for what they are indications of higher increases in the output of timber and its products in coming years.

The modest improvements in the sector notwithstanding, there are still vestigial constraints limiting higher export figures even under present conditions.

Processes

The present regulations inadvertently make producers go through far too many processes before they are granted export permits.

Export documents have to be counter signed by officials of the Bank of Ghana, the TEDB, the Ministry of Trade, as well as the Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning.

Given the state of our transport and communication systems these seemingly innocuous processes militate against the shipment of exports without any undue delays.

To enable exporters to maintain their portions of the export market, and to minimize delays in the export of timber products, it may be appropriate to establish a timber exports processing office, where representatives of the institutions charged with the processing of export permits will be available during official working hours, to work on, and grant permits for the exportation of timber and timber products.

/9274
CSO: 3400/887

REGIONS TO RETAIN PERCENTAGE FROM RESOURCES FOR DEVELOPMENT

Accra PEOPLE'S DAILY GRAPHIC in English 19 Dec 85 p 1

[Article by George Koranteng]

[Text]

THE PNDC Government has evolved a system under which 15 per cent of the total value of resources tapped in each region would be allocated to it for its development projects.

This was disclosed by Dr E. G. A. Don-Arthur, Western Regional Secretary, when he addressed the Western Regional House of Chiefs at their end of year meeting at Sekondi on Tuesday.

The Regional Secretary noted that in recognition of the region's contribution to the Economic Recovery Programme (ERP) therefore, the government is directing most of its foreign aid projects on roads to the Western Region and machinery for the projects have started arriving in the country.

Dr Don-Arthur also hinted that among the three hospitals chosen in the country by the government to be developed to international standard is the Effia-Nkwanta Hospital.

He praised the Regional House of Chiefs for launching a development fund but warned that the people must first be educated to understand that development projects have no magic attached to them but rather they are planned action which demands the participation of all concerned.

Nana Atta Kwesi Brembi, President of the Western Regional House of Chiefs, appealed to stranger farmers in the region to refer all land problems to the House of Chiefs rather than resorting to court action.

/9274
CSO: 3400/880

QUAINOO COMMENDS TROOPS, CALLS FOR SECURITY AGENCY COOPERATION

Accra PEOPLE'S DAILY GRAPHIC in English 1 Jan 86 p 1

[Text] The Force Commander, Major-General Arnold Quainoo yesterday commended the security forces for ensuring peace throughout the year saying this had contributed immensely to the enviable economic record of the government.

He, however, regretted the attitude of some disgruntled people who still want to destabilise the PNDC and urged the security services to eschew complacency and work in concert to defeat the enemy.

He was addressing troops at the end of the anniversary parade at the El-Wak Stadium.

He said "from now on, nothing can hold us back. The sky is our limit" reminding them that the country needed peace to make meaningful economic recovery.

"We should not drop our guards for even a moment. We must keep our defence posture," Major-General Quainoo stressed.

The Force Commander called for greater co-operation among security agencies pointing out that through that they would be invincible.

He urged the re-training of the Civil Defence Organisation so that in case of any external aggression the civil population could take active part in national defence.

The troops later went on a route march through some of the principal streets of the city.

Among those present at the stadium was the wife of the Burkinabe leader, Mrs Mariam Sankara.

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CSO: 3400/887

RAWLINGS DISCUSSES ROLE OF NEWS MEDIA

Accra PEOPLE'S DAILY GRAPHIC in English 2 Jan 86 p 1

[Article by Breda Atta-Quayson]

[Text]

THE Chairman of the PNDC, Flt-Lt. Jerry John Rawlings has expressed the hope that with the coming year the media would understand the intricacies of the society and project news events that would benefit the society as a whole.

He said the media should be able to project news events that would enable the country to develop for the general good of the people.

Flt-Lt Rawlings said the media should also put across news stories that would make people see clearly their role in the revolutionary process and thus put in whatever they could for the advancement of the whole society.

Chairman Rawlings was chatting informally with the members of the Castle Press Corps at a cocktail party held at the forecourt of the State House last Tuesday to round off the activities marking the fourth anniversary of the December 31 Revolution.

The Leader of the Revolution said the media should endeavour to avoid giving prominence to news events that would bring division and instead concentrate on developmental journalism.

When Chairman Rawlings got to the State House a number of uninvited people had gathered there apparently to catch a glimpse of him and wish him a Happy New Year.

They shook hands with him, some embraced him and others asked him for a group photograph.

One of them passed a Coca-Cola to him and another shouted "Happy New Year" to which he responded "the same to you".

/9274
CSO: 3400/880

RENNER SHOWS CONCERN OVER GOLD, DIAMOND SMUGGLING

Accra PEOPLE'S DAILY GRAPHIC in English 9 Jan 86 p 1

[Text] Mr Kwesi Renner, Secretary for Lands and Natural Resources, has expressed concern over the volume of gold and diamond smuggled outside the country recently.

This act, he noted, was crippling the efforts of the government to put the economy, especially the mining sector, on a sound footing.

According to the Secretary the quantity of gold smuggled in as much as the quantity produced officially.

Mr Renner was delivering his opening address at a two-day seminar codenamed "Save the Mines" organised by the Ghana Mine Workers Union (GMWU) which opened at Tarkwa on Monday.

Participants were drawn from CDRs, unionists, senior staff associations and top management of all the mining units under the State Gold Mining Corporation (SGMC).

He dismissed suggestions that gold smuggled out are not from the mining areas alone and said study conducted by his ministry at Obuasi had proved that the bulk of gold smuggled came from mining areas.

The bulk of the official diamond winnings also go into private pockets, he added.

He said the PNDC is highly disturbed about this act and called on the management of gold and diamond mining companies to help the government plug the loopholes in the system.

On the Canadian-Ghana mining rehabilitation projects, Mr Renner explained that workers would not be part of the new board of governors to be constituted for the SGMC under the contract.

The Secretary said the board would be made up of experts to monitor the efforts of the contact group while workers would be represented on the management committee to ensure effective day-to-day running of the mining units.

On housing of the miners the Secretary remarked "housing on the mines to say the least is extremely disgraceful".

Referring to the housing units at the Tarkwa Goldfields, he said they were built 100 years ago but had not been renovated.

Mr Renner said the government was looking for a standardised system of laterite to enable it to embark on a housing scheme for miners.

In his contribution, Dr E. G. A. Don-Arthar, the Western Regional Secretary, observed that ineptitude and lack of control on the part of some management and workers are some of the root causes of inefficiency in the country.

He called for mutual co-operation between the work force of the SGMC and the Canadian team to enable the corporation to achieve the target set under the agreement.

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CSO: 3400/887

BRIEFS

SOVIET TOOLS FOR SCHOOLS--The Ghana Education Service (GES) has taken delivery of 23,509 units of simple agricultural tools for distribution to schools and colleges throughout the country to boost food production and ease the food supply situation in schools. This is made up of 421 hand trowels, 2,184 shovels, 2,244 spades, 2004 garden rakes, 2,012 digging forks, about 1,000 garden forks, 994 pick axes and about 1,000 hoes imported under the government's Import Programme. Others, being donations from the Soviet Union received through the Ministry of Agriculture, are 1,500 rakes, 1,500 spades, 250 axes, 200 hand saws and 1,200 hoes. A credible source at the GES disclosed this in an interview in Accra yesterday and mentioned that 7,000 local hoes are also in stock, while other consignments are being expected under the import programme. The source explained that some of the tools had to be imported because they are not easily obtainable locally. Meanwhile, meetings are being held to work out the modalities for the proper distribution of the tools to secondary schools, colleges and technical schools before the next farming season begins, the source added. [Text] [Article by Kojo Atsu] [Accra PEOPLE'S DAILY GRAPHIC in English 8 Jan 86 p 1] /9274

NEW MINIMUM WAGE--A uniform amount of ₵120 is to be paid by every income-earner as the new basic rate with effect from January 1, 1986. This was announced by Mr G. J. Quarshie, Manya Krobo District Secretary, at the passing-out ceremony of a 41-member anti-bushfire squad for the Upper Manya Krobo District at Asesewa in the Eastern Region on Tuesday. In the speech read on his behalf by Mr G. R. K. Awume of the district secretariat, Mr Quarshie explained that the 600 per cent increase is to enable the government to generate enough funds to complete on-going projects in various districts as well as to initiate new ones. Mr Quarshie said these basic rates are subsidised by the government to provide the rural areas with social infrastructure. He, therefore, urged the chiefs in the various towns to liaise with the Town Development Committees (TDCs), CDRs and other progressive organisations including churches to educate the people on the essence of the new rate. The district secretary asked the chiefs in the district to place an embargo on the activities of palm wine tappers, bush-burning by farmers and trapping of animals by means of fire until March next year when the rains begin. [Text] [Article by Sam Donkor] [Accra PEOPLE'S DAILY GRAPHIC in English 19 Dec 85 p 8] /9274

CUBAN FILM PROTOCOL--The Cuban and Ghanaian film industries have signed a protocol agreement of collaboration at the seventh international festival of the new Latin American Cinema taking place in Havana, Cuba. The protocol for the period 1986-88 includes the showing of films in both countries, and increase of film programmes in commercial circuits coproduction of films and Cuban technical assistance to Ghanaian film-makers. The signing was attended by Cuban Deputy Culture Minister Julio Garcia, Ghanaian Ambassador to Cuba Kojo Amoo Gottfried, the Managing Director of the Ghana Film Industry Corporation, Mr Chris Hesse and General Secretary of the Pan-American Federation of Film-Makers, Gaston Kabore. [Text] [Accra PEOPLE'S DAILY GRAPHIC in English 11 Dec 85 p 1] /9274

CSO: 3400/889

MEETING OF JOINT COMMISSION WITH ZAIRE REPORTED

Conakry HOROYA in French 7 Dec 85 p 1

[Article by Mamady Wasco Keita]

[Text] The full Joint Guinean-Zairian Commission began its work on Thursday, 5 December, in the Palace of Nations in Conakry. At the inaugural session, the Guinean and Zairian ministers of foreign affairs and international cooperation, Facinet Touré and Mokolo Wapongo, expressed their satisfaction at the initiative of holding such a meeting, thus stressing the will of the two countries to reaffirm their cooperation on all levels.

After reviewing the reports drafted since 1981, the year the commission was established, the two ministers concluded that the ideal situation had not yet been reached due to the lack of follow-up on the decisions and recommendations.

Consequently, before allowing the experts of both countries to review the various aspects of the projects to be ratified, Facinet Touré and Mokolo Wapongo urged that the meeting be specific and to the point.

Henceforth it will be a question of formulating problems and policies based on them.

Thus, following the departure of the two ministers, two joint commissions were formed for the purpose of formulating, for Commission A, draft agreements covering the economic, financial, transportation and industrial sectors, and for Commission B, draft agreements pertaining to the legal-cultural sectors, including education, research, health, sports and information. Commission B had on its agenda the study of draft agreements on the free movement of goods and people between the two countries and a draft consular agreement.

The two commissions were continuing their work by the time we went to press. The final meeting is scheduled for today, Saturday, 7 December.

6857
CSO: 3419/176

REVITALIZATION OF SMALL-SCALE FISHING INDUSTRY REPORTED

Conakry HOROYA in French 12 Dec 85, pp 1, 2

[Article by Fodé Kouyaté: "Revitalize Small-Scale Fishing Industry"]

[Text] Captain Alpha Oumar Barry, secretary of state for fishery, presided over a meeting of officials from his department on Saturday, 7 December; the five best fishermen from each of Conakry's prefectures were invited to attend as well.

The meeting dealt with the food self-sufficiency goal set by the Military Committee for National Recovery (CMRN). This involves making sure that the population will receive sufficient and varied food staples, including protein-based products, fish in particular.

At the meeting, the secretary of state for fishery spoke on the inquiry our government sent to Japan, Canada and some banking institutions, such as the Arab Economic Development Bank of Africa (BADEA) and the African Development Fund (ADF), which are ready to participate in the development of small-scale fishing in Guinea.

Where Does the Catch Go?

That is what the secretary of state for fishery wondered, together with what confronts the Conakry housewife each morning when she goes to the market, facing the difficult problem of fish buying, particularly since, according to the minister, the catches are substantial. Thus, from July to November 1985, the total catch of the best fishermen was estimated at 13,000 tons.

For the special Conakry zone, the catch unloaded over a 4-month period was 2,196 tons for Conakry, 285 tons for Conakry II and 328 tons for Conakry III, or a total of 2,809 tons of fish.

Sinces it takes 30 tons a day to supply the town of Conakry adequately, this amount should be quite satisfactory if the marketing was well organized. This point was brought to the attention of the prefects of the capital, who are in charge of organizing the marketing of the fish in the Conakry markets.

Future Outlook

The 1986-1991 development plan for small-scale fishing was submitted during this meeting. It is being financed by the African Development Fund (ADF) and the Arab Economic Development Bank for Africa (BADEA) to the amount of $25 million, with a contribution from the Guinean government estimated at 10 million sylis.

This project includes small-scale fishing and fish breeding.

The implementation of this project has been entrusted to the Small-Scale Fishing and Agriculture Office in Guinea, an independent organization for the administration and implementation of future similar or additional projects in the areas of small-scale fishing and fish breeding.

6857
CSO: 3419/176

JOINT COMMISSION WITH CUBA ADOPTS ACTION PROGRAM

Conakry HOROYA in French 12 Dec 85 p 2

[Article by Demba Doumbouya: "Fifth Joint Guinean-Cuban Commission: An Effective Action Program"]

[Text] Today is the end of the joint meeting of the fifth session of the full Joint Guinean-Cuban Cooperation Commission for reviewing the implementation of the protocol, signed in Havana on 18 May 1983, and the new action program for 1986-1987.

The secretary of state in charge of Guineans abroad, Jean-Claude Diallo, declared at the first meeting on Monday, 9 December: "Faced with an economic situation most favorable to the implementation of our development policies, we must promote the South-South cooperation which is called for as a historical imperative, for it allows our respective countries to develop a new form of cooperation founded on the principle of solidarity."

Jean-Claude Diallo pointed out the features of the cooperation between the Socialist Republic of Cuba and the Republic of Guinea, which is showing encouraging results.

He stressed the training in Cuba of Guinean cadres in all areas, the building of the Ratoma poultry farm and of the Sandino plant whose commissioning in the near future will be an asset in solving the housing crisis in our country, the Sansambaya project in the field of road infrastructure and the technical assistance in the education and health sectors, in which the loans granted by the Cuban partners are highly appreciated by the Guinean populations. He noted that our government considers the formulation of an action program very important.

The head of the Cuban delegation, Lester Rodriguez Perez, vice-president of the State Committee for Economic Cooperation, stressed in a short speech the feelings of friendliness and high regard of the Cubans for the Guineans. Before hailing the spirit of mutual understanding marking Cuban-Guinean relations, he emphasized Cuban support for the struggle against colonialism, neocolonialism and apartheid by the peoples enamored of justice and freedom.

6857
CSO: 3419/176

INTERIM NATIONAL ASSEMBLY ISSUES DECREES

Labour Court, Mortgage Redemption

Monrovia NEW LIBERIAN in English 30 Dec 85 pp 1, 6

[Text] The Interim National Assembly (INA) has issued two new decrees establishing a National Labour Court and eliminating the right of redemption of mortgaged property.

According to the decree 21, a National Labour Court shall be established and have exclusive jurisdiction to hear appeals from the decisions of the Board of General Appeals to the Labor Ministry and the method of enforcement of its judgment shall be the same as that of the Circuit Court in civil actions.

Decree 21 said the judge of the National Labour Court shall have "power, authority and exclusive jurisdiction to issue or order the issuance of writs of injunctions and Writs for Summary Preceedings in the nature or prohibition addressed to the Ministry of Labour and its officers in the exercise of its appellate jurisdiction over them".

The appeals from decision and other determination of the National Labour Court shall be to the People's Supreme Court, the decree said.

It also said that the Head of State shall nominate and with the consent of the INA appoint and commission a judge to preside over the national court.

According to the decree, the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court shall fix terms of court and rules and regulations for the operation and administration of the National Labour Court.

The INA decree also amended the Executive Law to extend the administrative powers and procedure of the Ministry of Labour and the labour law to extend the duties of the labour solicitor.

According to the decree, the Minister of labour shall have the power to fine any person, enterprise or other legal entity not less than $450, or not more than $2,000, who fails to respond to its citation.

The Ministry of Labour in keeping with chapter 34, section 34.2 (a) of the executive law, shall issue necessary regulations adapted to the needs of the

country which will realize the government's goal to establish a system of sound labour relations in Liberia.

The decree further states that hearing officers of the Ministry of Labour shall have territorial jurisdiction over cases arising in their respective counties or territories in the Republic of Liberia where their offices are located.

Hearing officers shall have the power, in connection with the hearing and determination of labour cases to, administer oaths: issue suboena to compel the attendance of witness and parties to the case, or to produce books, paper, documents and other evidence, among others.

The decree also clarified that any party dissatisfied with decision of a hearing officers may take an appeal by filling a petition for review with the Board of General Appeals within 30 days after receipt of the hearing officer's decision.

For its part, Decree Number 20 repeals Title One, Chapter Two, Section Two 12. (3) of the Liberian Code of Laws Revised and "eliminates the right of redemption after a judicial sale of mortgaged realty and provides for a six-month grace period before fore-closure proceedings."

Section Two of the decree states that "prior to the property, a condition of which is the sale of such property upon default, the mortgagor or his successor in interest or legal, representative shall be given a grace period of at least six calendar months to comply with the terms of said mortgage."

According to Section Three of the decree, a "mortgage or his successor in interest or legal representative shall ensure that any realty to be sold as a result of successful fore-closure proceedings shall be sold at the fiar market value at the time of sale."

The decree, which has already been approved by the Liberian Leader, Dr. Samuel Kanyon Doe comes into immediate effect.

"Any law to the contrary notwithstanding," the decree concluded.

Sports Stadium, INA Pensions

Monrovia NEW LIBERIAN in English 3 Jan 86 pp 1, 6

[Text] The Interim National Assembly (INA) has issued Decree 22 and 23 naming the newly constructed Sports Stadium in Paynesville the Samuel Kanyon Doe Sports Stadium and granting pension to members of the INA.

Decree 22 observed that the development of sports in the country has been one of the major objectives of Head of State Doe since he assumed leadership of this country.

The decree also said as a concrete evidence of his keen interest in sports development, Dr. Doe has constructed a modern sports stadium in Paynesville, thereby adding to the prestige of our country and making Liberia capable of hosting various kinds of international games.

The decree further said Dr. Doe has constantly demonstrated concrete interest in the youth of his country, by encouraging them to develop a spirit of friendship, challenge and competition so as to ensure success for our country in future friendly international games.

Decree 21 recalled that section 12 of the Legislative laws..last amended, provides the payment of pension to former members of the legislature who are honourably retired.

The decree noted that the INA is about to be dissolved with its members retiring after honourably completing duties which are similar to those of a legislature. Members of the INA shall upon retirement be entitled to receive pension equal to half the salary of an encumbent member of the legislature in consonance with section 12 of the Legislative law as last amended.

The decree further said 50 per cent of the pension provided for a member of the INA shall be paid after his death to his widow during her life time, and on the death of his widow, or if there be no widow, to his minor children.

The decree also authorises the Ministry of Finance to pay the pension out of any money in the public treasury not otherwise appropriated under warrant from the Head of State.

The decree takes immediate effect upon signature of the Head of State.

/9274
CSO: 3400/866

LIBYANS FACE PRESS, EXCHANGE IDEAS

Antananarivo MADAGASCAR MATIN in French 9 Dec 85 pp 4, 8

[Text] In less than 3 months, the JALPS (or Libyan Jamahiriya) People's Bureau in Antananarivo has organized two press luncheons. With their constant concern to better inform public opinion on Libyan policy which has quite often come under a virtual all-out attack from the most diverse circles, it is completely normal that Libyan diplomats posted to the Democratic Republic of Madagascar headed by Salem Ali Salem Dannah, should meet with reporters not to hear observations and defend themselves, as is right, but to exchange ideas, to be informed on a number of topics in the interests, of course, of Libyan-Malagasy cooperation which, to this point, according to our Libyan colleagues, has not been tainted in any way.

On Saturday at midday, as a matter of fact, more than 30 journalists of every political stripe answered the invitation of the People's Republic to attend a luncheon at the Rendezvous des Chasseurs restaurant in Andoharanofotsy. Without any ceremony. More direct than ever, the meeting allowed the two groups to lift once and for all the "veil" which seems to mask the true nature of our relations with Qadhdhafi's Libya since the establishment of the organizational reforms based essentially on "the power of the people" in this rich country of less than 4 million inhabitants.

From "state terrorism" to "Libyan-Malagasy relations," the Moroccan-Libyan cooperation agreement, the "Libyan miracle" which is in process of taking shape thanks to the success of a down-to-earth policy pursued by an obviously motivated people, were so many questions put by the journalists to Salem Ali Salem, which he answered at times directly, at times less directly according to diplomatic rules well established whatever the regime may be.

Very often, Salem was able to hit the ball back into his questioners' end of the court while retaining the unruffled coolness which distinguishes experienced diplomats when they encounter professionals from the media who are always ready to home in, especially since the latter, that Saturday, had with them a representative from a country which has been too much in the news, not only in Africa but throughout virtually the entire world "both for good and ill."

However that may be, it was an interesting and worthwhile meeting on several counts for Malagasy-Libyan friendship and cooperation. A frank and direct

discussion which undeniably allowed the two parties to understand one another better and therefore to get beyond deceptions that leave a bad taste. The wonderful backdrop of the restaurant and its high quality menu served to raise the level of this dialogue between the Libyan People's Bureau and the Malagasy press which expressed the desire on this occasion, voiced of course by Max Ratsimandisa, of one day being able to observe in person the realities of the JALPS.

9824
CSO: 3419/182

AGALEGA LANDING STRIP FINANCED BY CCCE

Port Louis L'EXPRESS in French 15 Nov 85 p 1

[Text] The Central Economic Cooperation Bank (CCCE) will provide funding of 5 million French francs (9 million Rs) for construction of the landing strip in Agalega.

This decision comes in the wake of the work accomplished by the last mixed Franco-Mauritian commission. The Aid and Cooperation Fund (FAC) had already earmarked a financial package of 9 million French francs (17 million Rs).

CCCE financing will be used primarily for installation of the new landing strip and for construction of a new access pontoon in Agalega.

Yves Roland-Billecart, general manager of the CCCE, will sign the papers relating to this financial assistance during his next mission in Mauritius. He is expected in Plaisance on Friday monring, the 22nd, and will sign two funding agreements in the "Prime Minister's Office" in the presence of Anerood Jugnauth, the prime minister.

Besides the Agalega agreement, Roland-Billecart will sign papers related to French assistance in the acquisition of a small courrier airplane for the national airline "Air Mauritius." The minister of finances, Vishnu Lutchmeenaraidoo, and the president-general manager of the airline, Harry Tirvengadum, will be present during the ceremony.

Roland-Billecart and Paul Deram, CCCE director in Mauritius, will travel to Rodrigues for the weekend. They will be welcomed by the minister of Rodrigues and the islands, France Felicite.

Although an "old hand" in Mauritius, this will be Roland-Billecart's first trip to the 21st district. While there, he will visit the animal breeding stations, whose modernization was financed by the CCCE.

Upon his return to Mauritius Sunday afternoon, the CCCE general manager will be invited to take a helicopter tour of Mauritius.

Two work sessions have been scheduled for the general manager and the Mauritian government. The first meeting is scheduled for Friday afternoon, the 22nd, and the second for Monday, the 25th. A press conference will follow the interministrial work session.

Financing for the modernization of the sugar industry, development of the energy sector and the water use policy will be among the principal subjects discussed. The goal of the water policy is to reintroduce the master water diagram drawn up by SIGMA/SOGREAH and financed by CCCE.

In 1984, the CCCE provided Mauritius with a financial package of 85 million French francs (145 million Rs) to finance a number of projects including the construction of a 5-star hotel, the "Royal Palm," soon to be inaugurated (see related article). [not translated]

Roland-Billecart's next visit will be a special one, because next year will mark the 10th anniversary of collaboration between the CCCE and Mauritius. The first financial packages granted Mauritius by the CCCE, in 1975, were earmarked for the "Central Water Authority," for rural water supply, and for telecommunications, for the installation of three electronic telephone exchanges.

9825/12232
CSO: 3419/145

NATION USED AS CENTER OF FALSE PASSPORT TRAFFICKING

Port Louis LE MAURICIEN in French 26 Nov 85 pp 1, 4

[Text] Mauritius is currently the center of large-scale, international trafficking in false passports. After warning the IATA (International Association of Transport Airlines) about the false Mauritian passports, the Reuters press agency sends word from Sri Lanka that Afghan refugees carrying false Mauritian passports and seeking political asylum in Colombo were sent back to Katmandu, Nepal's capital.

The information supplied by Reuters thus confirms the existence of an international traffic in false passports in which Mauritius is involved, probably without the knowledge of Mauritian authorities. The questions that remains unanswered is whether Maruitians living abroad are implicated in this traffic or whether a ring of foreign traffickers using Mauritius' name are involved.

In last month's issue of IATA's newspaper, Travel Information Manual published a note entitled "Warning" in which Mauritius was cited, implicitly implicating the country in false passport trafficking. IATA's newspaper wrote: "With a view to the recent flow of inadmissible passengers to certain countries--to an increasing extent holding forged passports, e.g. of Mauritius--it is necessary to emphasize the importance of a thorough check of the passenger documentation."

This note, which does not do honor to our country, was unfortunately confirmed by events that took place in the Sri Lanka airport Saturday, when 30 Afghans coming from Nepal disembarked from a Royal Nepal Airlines airplane with false Maruitian passports. The group consisted of 6 men, 8 women and 15 children seeking political asylum in Sri Lanka. When immigration officials refused them access to the airport, the refugees became enraged and began yelling in a foreign language to everyone present in the airport. Two Afghans even attempted suicide by slashing their veins and other parts of their bodies with bottles they had broken. One of the refugees explained in English that he could not return to Afghanistan without running the risk of being killed. Police stated that they had to drag the refugees back to the airplane on which they had arrived so they could be sent back to Nepal.

The Afghans explained that they were refugees and that they wanted to inform the United Nations of their plight in order to obtain political asylum. According to the independent newspaper SUN, the 15 Afghans wanted to continue to

Germany after staying in Sri Lanka. At the beginning of this year, an Afghan coming from Nepal disembarked in Sri Lanka and stayed there a month, seeking political asylum in the country. He was then sent to West Germany, where authorities agreed to consider his request. The 15 Afghans attempted to do the same, this time using false Mauritian passports, but were not as lucky as their countryman.

All the same, the incident at the Sri Lanka airport is serious enough to warrant an immediate investigation by the government, beginning with our embassies abroad.

9825/12232
CSO: 3419/145

GOVERNMENT PUBLICATION OUTLINES ECONOMIC SUCCESSES

Port Louis LE MAURICIEN in French 30 Nov 85 p 4

[Text] The prime minister, Aneerood Jugnauth, yesterday morning launched a Ministry of Information publication, entitled "Recovery," which highlights government achievements during the current year. In a short speech, the prime minister explained that, after the 1983 elections, the government had a challenge to meet. "The challenge was economic recovery and, to date, Mauritius has made some of the most spectacular progress in its history--progress that is recognized by international institutions, including the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank."

"These government efforts were made with the year 2000 in mind, and in accepting this challenge, the government has shown that it means business," the prime minister said. Jugnauth appealed for vigilance, discipline and work in freedom, harmony, unity and democracy, which are the only means of success in the country.

The publication, whose cover design is in black and white, includes seven chapters which outline government achievements in the following sectors: finances, economy and industrial development, infrastructures, agriculture, Welfare State, regional administration, cooperatives, Rodrigues and the islands. According to D. Callikhan, director of Information Services, the publication is aimed at the general public and the simple language used will enable a large number of Mauritians to become aware of the progress accomplished in the country. The 38 page booklet will be distributed free of charge throughout the island.

9825/12232
CSO: 3419/145

MMM SECRETARY GENERAL DISCUSSES MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS

Port Louis LE NOUVEAU MILITANT in French 15 Dec 85 p 4

[Interview with Alan Ganoo, MMM secretary general, by Darma Mootien: "The Electorate Censured the Government Through Last Sunday's Vote"; date and place not given]

[Text] The MMM's [Mauritian Militant Movement] victory in last Sunday's elections was the result of tireless work. According to Alan Ganoo, the secretary general of the party, the Alliance at times seemed to have a psychological lead over the MMM. Nevertheless, the electorate managed to overcome the fear instilled by the government. For the secretary general of the MMM, last Sunday's results showed that the administration is clearly losing ground. However, the MMM will only win the general elections if the government fails to learn the lesson and maintains the policies which voters have condemned.

[Question] The MMM came out even stronger from last Sunday's municipal elections. Were you expecting this crushing victory?

[Answer] We were confident of our victory. We were expecting citizens to reply positively to the appeal we had made to them, i.e., to cast a vote censuring the government for its performance in power since August 1983, and a vote of confidence in the MMM candidates for the admirable work carried out by our party in the municipalities, despite the central administration's boycott which everyone knows about.

The people could not fail to reply to this appeal by the MMM because it was very sensible. Nevertheless, I will not hide the fact from you that at the beginning and even several times during the campaign, we had some misgivings about the results of these elections.

We were worried because we believed that the government had succeeded in arousing fear among voters and had managed to effectively intimidate our electorate.

We were unable to learn the extent of this campaign of intimidation and to what degree it had been effective. But at the same time, we were able to observe the extent of popular frustration, the disenchantment and disillusionment of a betrayed people. We also knew that the anger of the people against

the government would be unleashed on election day.

Fortunately, the situation developed as we had hoped. We placed our confidence in this great people of ours who, in a show of dignity and patriotism, braved the fear that the regime wanted to impose, and said no to blackmail and intimidation.

We also expected this victory because we had at our disposal an organization which ran marvelously and which, while being centralized, was able to comb the 19 districts without exception. Despite the vast means which the Alliance had, our campaign, masterfully organized by our campaign manager, comrade Jean Claude de l'Estrac, enabled us to mobilize all our activists of whom a good number had been on the go since August 1983, allowing us to gain the maximum backing from our supporters.

[Question] The municipal election campaign was marked by certain incidents. It was shorter than that of 1983. Was it harder than the 1983 campaign?

[Answer] Any election campaign is hard, and the one we have just gone through was certainly very hard. We were facing a tenacious and tough opponent who did not hesitate to resort to low blows. They had unlimited resources and, it seems, at one moment in the campaign were able to create a psychological climate in their favor. It is true that this psychological climate was artificial but that did not prevent this climate from having positive effects for them. In addition, there was the campaign of deception that our opponents carried on through MBC/TV. At one time, we certainly had a problem in catching up on the psychological level.

That is why I think that our 1 December meeting had a substantial effect on this level; it enabled us to reverse steam and gave us the necessary impetus for victory.

Concerning the incidents you mentioned, obviously we deplore them. But fortunately, the election campaign was generally speaking a quiet one, even if it is true that some Alliance ministers and representatives, by their inappropriate, provocative statements, incited their supporters to unthinking actions, but as always our activists responded in a way which did honor to our party.

[Question] Some observers have insinuated that the Sunday vote was more a vote of condemnation against the government than a vote of approval for the ideas of the MMM. What is your view of that?

[Answer] It is not easy to penetrate the collective subconscious. But I agree with you that the MMM was able to rally the majority of votes behind them on the positions put forward against the government and its policies. The people had two positions before them--ours and that of the government. The latter asked voters to give them a vote of confidence for the good work they had done. The electorate decided in our favor. Therefore, I agree that voters did indeed censure the government in the Sunday vote. The focus of our campaign was on a vote of sanction of the government for its performance in power. It was not a matter of the MMM's having one or more of its ideas approved in this campaign.

[Question] You say that you are not claiming the coming general elections even after this major victory. Isn't there a contradiction in your reasoning?

[Answer] Certainly not. If holding general elections depended on the results of municipal elections, that would mean that general elections could take place every 3 years.

It is true that the government was wrong to place the bar so high by wanting to make these elections a national race and by wanting to test its popularity. It goes to show that in midterm, the government is clearly losing ground and popularity. But it must be understood that the government is not at the end of its mandate. We hope that after the unequivocal warning it has received, the government will modify its policy.

These elections enabled the population to convey to the government that it must change its policies. They must not be interpreted to mean that the government must be changed. But as we have already said, if the government persists with its present policies and fails to learn the appropriate lessons, we reserve to ourselves the right to claim the coming general elections. That is why immediately after our victory, we demanded that the Alliance put a stop to its policy of division, its "domineering" policy, and demanded that the parliamentary majority change its attitude in the legislative assembly, review the profit question, and stop once and for all their policy of protecting extremist groups.

[Question] Now that the municipal elections are over, will you immediately begin the campaign for the 1988 legislative elections?

We have just finished an election campaign. We are approaching the end of year period. The campaign we have just been through, although it was not as unhealthy as the 1983 campaign, has been very wearing on both politicians and voters. A period of "depoliticalization" is necessary, and we would like things to settle down.

In the municipalities, our mayors are establishing themselves and are getting prepared to take office. The MMM for its part is preparing its program of activity for 1986. There is no question of kicking off the 1988 campaign because, as you know, our party is always on the field. During those few months before the municipal elections, it was logical that the MMM should concentrate on the cities. Now it is necessary for us to strengthen our presence in the towns. We will go out into the rural areas at the beginning of next year, and in our conferences and other meetings will promote the same positions that we promoted against the government during the campaign for the municipal elections. We will consolidate our organization in the countryside while waiting for the coming legislative elections.

[Question] Rejoicing is the keynote at the moment; what message will you pass on at Place du Quai to activists and supporters?

[Answer] It is true that this is a happy time. December 1985 enabled us to restore our honor after the unfair defeat of 1983. These elections not only allowed the MMM but truth also to take its revenge. But I do not think we

should get too euphoric about it; we have a big job to do in some cities. What is our message to our activists and our electorate? To thank them once again for having saved the island of Mauritius. As it has each time that liberty and democracy have been threatened, the MMM has set itself as a rampart against this threat. We cannot measure the seriousness of the danger in which the country would have found itself if by mischance, through their vote last Sunday, the electorate had given even greater powers to this dictatorial and monopolizing government.

If the slogan "Alliance government, Alliance municipality" had been endorsed by the electorate, it would have sounded the death knell to democracy in Mauritius. Fortunately, our activists, the main architects of the MMM victory, gave themselves heart and soul to this election contest which was basically a crusade against those who would destroy democracy in Mauritius. We say to our activists that we are proud of them, and that the country owes them a great deal.

[Question] Have these elections, as some may claim, accentuated the split between the city and the countryside?

[Answer] Not at all. What these elections have shown is the progress of the MMM in our cities since 1983. But it is also evident that the strength of our party varies from city to city. In Quatre-Bornes, for example, the MMM received 47 percent of the votes. There are rural districts where we achieved nearly the same results in 1983. For us, on the contrary, these elections have renewed the unity of the population. In 1983, the flag of unity of the working class was at half mast. In 1985, the situation changed. In these municipal elections, the MMM was victorious in some districts with a strong Hindu majority. This group of voters also put their confidence in us.

[Question] What in your opinion are the innovations which the new MMM municipal teams are planning to set in place in the administration of our cities?

The MMM has always shown creativity and imagination in the municipalities. It did not stop innovating during its last term. Obviously, each city has its priorities, and it is incumbent on each municipal team to define these priorities. In the party, we leave to our municipal teams the task of establishing their work programs. We are convinced that with the team there in each municipality, and with the five mayors who were chosen, the MMM municipalities will offer further innovations in citizens' daily lives and in the administration of our cities. The results of these elections reflect a vote of confidence and satisfaction on the part of the electorate for the MMM's administration in the municipalities. But we are also the first to acknowledge that there are improvements to be made and gaps to be filled. We are trusting our teams to fulfil this task properly.

[Question] What would you expect the political climate to be in the country in the days and weeks ahead?

[Answer] It is not easy to foresee the future. After a defeat of this magnitude, it is inevitable that the Alliance will be shaken by internal problems. The frictions that already existed among the various individuals and groups

will be augmented and may have serious repercussions.

As concerns our victory, it is plain that from this point a real leftwing spurt will enliven the country. The MHM will undoubtedly benefit from this psychological boost. A natural consequence of these elections is a strengthening of our party's credibility and prestige, which enables us to face the coming legislative elections with a lead over the Alliance.

9824
CSO: 3419/182

LONRHO INVESTING HEAVILY IN VARIOUS SECTORS

Harare THE FINANCIAL GAZETTE in English 3 Jan 86 p 2

[Text] The British-based Lonrho group, already the biggest private investor in Mozambique, is now becoming heavily involved in new agro-industrial, gold mining and tourism sectors in that country.

Following a visit to Maputo last month by Lonrho chief executive, Mr Tiny Rowland, a joint-venture agricultural agreement was signed on December 4 to set up a Lonrho-Mozambique agro-industrial company, Lomaco, with capital of US$6 million.

Its first project is already under way, according to a detailed report in last week's African Economic Digest. Some 2,000 hectares of cotton are being planted in the Condue valley north of Beira in Sofala province.

Lomaco is also planning a tomato-canning plant at Chokwe, about 200 kilometres from Maputo in the Limpopo valley, and the agreement will also allow new areas and crops to be added as Lomaco identifies new projects.

Future plans could involve sugar, tea, citrus and fruit estates, livestock development at Umbelizi near Maputo, and possible tobacco production near the Zimbabwe border.

Lomaco was set up under provisions of the August, 1984, investment code, as previously reported, and Mozambique hopes it will pioneer the way for other foreign investors.

Some other Lonrho projects will depend largely on the security situation.

The group has been offered three blocks for gold exploration and development in the Revue river area of Manica province near the Zimbabwe border.

According to the AED, the rights are now under negotiation with the Mozambique Government. Mr Majid Osman, the mineral resources minister, was quoted as estimating that gold reserves in seven blocks on offer were a "minimum" of 50 tonnes.

The rpime area of interest apparently centres around the Braganca mine--in the area of the former MNR stronghold of Casa Banana in the foothills of Gorongoza.

This was the bandit area recently stormed and cleared by a combined Zimbabwe-Mozambique armed forces action late last year.

The minerals agreement is expected to be signed this month and Lonrho hopes that some exploration work may begin in March or April.

The report said that formalisation of the September, 1984, tourism protocol is also expected soon. Under this agreement Lonrho will take over management and rehabilitation of Mozambique's premier Polana hotel in Maputo as well as the Dom Carlos hotel, at Beira.

Other interests are likely to include the Four Seasons hotel near Maputo, and also development of tourism on the Santa Carolina islands in the Mozambique Channel.

/9274
CSO: 3400/876

BRIEFS

MAPUTO LINE OPEN--The rialway line to Maputo via Nkomati is now operational, an executive in the transport business told The Gazette yesterday. The line was put out of action on December 7, when a bridge near the Mozambiquan border with South Africa was destroyed by saboteurs. "I think it was opened on December 26, and as far as I know, goods traffic is now moving normally," he said. The NRZ had introduced a total embargo on the acceptance of goods to Maputo. [Text] [Harare THE FINANCIAL GAZETTE in English 3 Jan 86 p 2] /9274

CSO: 3400/876

PRESIDENT ENDS TOUR, RETURNS TO NIAMEY

Niamey LE SAHEL in French 6-8 Dec 85 p 1

[Commentary by Issa Inouss]

[Text] The head of state and president of the supreme military council, General Seyni Kountche, returned to Niamey yesterday morning after his tour to evaluate the 1985 agrarian-pastoral campaign.

The head of state was welcomed on the outskirts of the department by the minister of agriculture. Allele El Hadj Habibu, who is in charge of the Niamey department of the Development Company, and the prefect, Ibrahim Hassan.

He was then greeted at the city limits by the president of the National Development Council, Omaru Mamani. He was given an exceptionally warm welcome all along the route leading his cortege to the traditional combat arena where a large crowd was waiting.

Immediately afterward, the head of state presided over an upper-level administrative conference in the Omaru Ganda Cultural Center to evaluate the 1985 agrarian-pastoral campaign. Fortunately, the food situation is better this year than last.

Niamey department produced 327,678 tons compared to 209,479 in 1984. There are 50,209 tons being held in reserve stock with the OPVN.

With an estimated population of 1,492,025 inhabitants, Niamey department has the fourth largest deficit in the country. There is a shortage of 24,82 tons compared to 108,375 tons last year. This deficit affects 274 villages , in particular in the northern part of the Oallam and Finlingue departments.

Fifty-five thousand two hundred eighty-five tons of rice and approximately 5,000 tons of beans were produced. Peanut production dropped sharply and was practically nonexistent.

The 1978 off-season crop sites have been reserved and are being readied. Some 795 holes will be drilled as part of the village hydraulic program, to which Kuwait, the Agreement Council and the Liptako-Gourma Authority are making separate financial contributions. In addition, 200 Saudi Arabian-financed wells are scheduled to be drilled in the Oallam and Finlingue department.

Among the subjects President Koutche discussed during the administrative conference were the problems of state contract houses, of increasing off-season crops and creating family reserve stocks.

As he has done elsewhere, the head of state decorated certain FAN members in recognition of their work in transporting and distributing free of charge food supplies to needy populations in the Niamey department last year.

An evening reception was given by the Niamey department prefect at the Omaru Ganda Cultural Center.

9825/12232
CSO: 3419/157

AGRARIAN-PASTORAL CAMPAIGN FOR 1985 REVIEWED

Niamey LE SAHEL in French 8 Dec 85 pp 4-5

[Article by I.M. Tantan]

[Text] We prayed and prayed that the heavens would have mercy on us; public authorities very early made the necessary preparations. Despite the failures--primarily psychological--of 1984, the countries, more and more serious, set to work again. Providence took care of the rest: in many respects, the 1985 agrarian-pastoral campaign was far better than the preceding one. In several regions of the country, past cereal deficits were substantially reabsorbed, in others significant surpluses were even recorded.

In a village in the Tanout department, the harvest of the century is being announced. The village chief, courageous and generous, is said to have decided to pay in full, by himself, the departmental taxes of all the individuals in his jurisdiction. This offer has moreover become a bone of contention, with each villager vying for the privilege and pleasure of making the gesture the chief wanted to make.

In another village, or hamlet rather, in the Dakoro department, a former shepherd has publicly announced that he is quitting his previous profession. He is opting for a sedentary lifestyle after only one agricultural campaign. As far as he is concerned, transhumance is out--working the land pays off!

In another campaign, in the Tera department this time, certain peasants, although destitute, are in no hurry to eat the new millet. Their production was so abundant that they don't trust it. They are therefore first consulting the oracles to make sure that the apparent windfall really is one.

Who would have believed it? Although these anecdotes do not ring 100 percent true, this is the kind of tale that is being circulated at the moment, each with its own element of exaggeration. Almost every day one learns of incredible harvests in one region or another of the country. The initial effects of these "rumors" were renewed confidence in the country as a whole, but also a downward tumble in the prices of the principal cereals we produce, including millet and sorghum. If rumors can be believed, these prices have reached 1960's levels, which of course had nothing to do with production costs.

Who would have hoped for as much? As late as the same time last year, considerably bleaker anecdotes about the agricultural campaign were being circulated. There were stories of displaced populations and of their pathetic resettlement. Everywhere, one heard of situations and distressing scenes that some of those who lived through them would just as soon forget. If it hadn't been for the prompt intervention of the public authorities, seconded by the international community, the foundation of Niger would have been badly shaken. If certain, perhaps overly pessimistic analysts are to be believed, we were on the verge of catastrophe.

This year, however, we can say "Al hamdu lillahi." The agrarian-pastoral campaign, although not particularly good everywhere in the country, was nevertheless satisfactory overall.

The anecdotes just related are evidence and the head of state's recent tour of appraisal confirm the fact: several regions of the country were able to substantially reabsorb past cereal deficits, while others even showed significant surpluses. This is due to relatively abundant rainfall, geographically and temporally well distributed.

However, the 1985 agrarian-pastoral campaign was slightly delayed in our country, according to a report of the national Meteorology Control. This slight delay naturally caused some understandable concern, but the situation quickly returned to normal. According to the same report of the national Meteorology Control, seeding did not begin in most of the national territory, except for a few, isolated zones, until the 10th of June. The resulting crops generally received a more or less satisfactory amount of water during July and August. On the other hand, certain regions, which badly needed the supply of water, were left high and dry for their September crops. This may in part explain the cereal deficits recorded in some zones of the country.

In general, however, precipitation during the 1985 season was well-timed (especially during June, July and August). The Agrometeorology Department insists that it was this good distribution that had a positive effect on crop development. According to the same department, in the majority of cases, 1985 rains were effective and fell just when the plants needed them. The plants need for water was therefore satisfied in most cases, which accounts in part for our good harvests.

However, rainfall in 1985 was also more abundant than in 1984. "There was s surplus in the cumulative rainfall as of 30 September 1985, compared to the same date the previous year, everywhere except in the areas of Chikal, Birni N'Konni, Illela and Tahoua, according to a national Meteorology Control report. This is due to the fact that organized systems, or the weatherman's famous "shower fronts," [lignes de grains] which are responsible for precipitation, passed over our country and the Sahel in general much more frequently than in 1984. These systems, which usually form in central Africa or Sudan, passed over the Sahel much more often than in 1984. In our country's case, another reason for the realtive abundance of rainfall in 1985 was the fact that the Intertropical Front (ITF) remained fairly high--much more so than in 1984--over almost the entire agricultural zone for a large part of the season.

However, Meteorology Control notes that, compared to the average (calculated for the 1951-1980 period), cumulative rainfall as of 30 September 1985 still showed a deficit throughout most of the country, except for a few isolated zones: around Dargol, the north of the Tchinbaraden department, around Aderbissinat, Abalak, and Dan Issa, the north of the Tanout and Goure departments and the north of the Diffa department. Generally, however, cumulative deficits remain low, because most of the rainfall stations recorded precipitation levels about 60 percent of the average. Will 1985 be a turning point, then? Meterologists are unwilling or unable to predict, any more than they were able to predict this year's good rainfall. All we can do is continue to pray and hope that 1985 will mark the end of a cycle of drought that has plagued us for more than a decade.

9825/12232
CSO: 3419/156

MEETING ON HYDRONIGER PROJECT REPORTED

Niamey LE SAHEL in French 10 Dec 85 p 2

[Text] At the invitation of the executive secretariat of the Niger Basin Authority, the Hydroniger Project Technical Committee held its eighth session in Niamey, 4, 5, and 6 December 1985 in the meeting room of the Center for Linguistic and Historical Studies through Oral Tradition (CLHSOT).

Representatives of Burkina Faso, Cameroon, the Ivory Coast, Guinea, Mali, Niger and Nigeria and representatives of the money-lending institutions PNUD, FED and the OMM executive agency as well as the number of guests participated in the meeting.

Beidu Bagnan, director of Niger Water Resources, welcomed participants to Niger on behalf of the host government. He was pleased to note the good attendance of ABM member states.

Ibrahim Sory Balde, executive secretary of the Niger Basin Authority, then officially opened the meeting which was attended by high-ranking executives within his organization. After evoking the suffering endured by the people as a result of the previous years' drought, he stressed the important role ABN must play in management of the Niger River basin in general and in the definition and application of a common water management policy in particular.

During the session, which took place in a cordial and fraternal atmosphere, the first of the Hydroniger Project, which comes to an end 31 December 1985 was examined. The project's accomplishments included the creation of an Inter-State Forecasting Center in Niamey, national centers in six of the eight participating countries, a data-collecting network and a computer system for real time hydrological forecasting.

The Technical Committee also studied a plan for a program of activities that will continue reinforcement and extension of the hydrological forecasting system during Hydroniger Project's second phase.

The committee thanked the CLHSOT director for the use of its facilities during the meeting. The Technical Committee adopted a motion of thanks addressed to his Excellency, Brigadier-General Seyni Koutche, president of the supreme military council and head of state of the government and people of the Republic of Niger.

The Technical Committee's ninth session is scheduled for October 1986 in the Ivory Coast.

9825/12232
CSO: 3419/157

EFFORT TO INCREASE TOURISM DESCRIBED

Niamey LE SAHEL in French 13-15 Dec 85 p 5

[Article by Dalatou Malam Mamane: "National Association of Tourism Professionals; In Search of Efficacy"; first paragraph is LE SAHEL introduction]

[Text] After 2 years of existence, the National Association of Tourism Professionals (ANPT) created in 1983 still has not made the grade. It has not produced any appreciable positive results.... Many obstacles have hindered its smooth operation.

To make tourism profitable in our country, the National Association of Innkeepers (ANH) was created in September 1983 at the end of a seminar on tourism and the hotel industry held in Agadez.

Its major goals are the defense of the interests of the profession, the promotion and development of tourism and the hotel industry in Niger in all possible ways--in other words, to combine means to arrive at a positive result.

Significant arrangements were made this year for the favorable evolution of the tourist season which extends from November to February each year. This period is the most auspicious because of the good weather in our country compared to Europe where it is excessively cold. It is also the opportune time for trips in the desert and in the river valley.

Among these arrangements, the liberalization of all tourist and hotel sectors may be cited. Along these lines, all hotels which were managed by the state were privatized. The camping areas held by the National Tourism Office (ONT) were also placed in the same situation, all of this with a view to encouraging the promotion of Nigerien private enterprise. Significant outlays were provided, and the process was revitalized and followed through.

Aside from the return of currency to the country, tourism also represents a genuine context for cultural exchange. Thus, by visiting certain locations, the foreigner comes to know the people and becomes familiar with their way of life, their customs, their culture, their habits, etc.

The contribution of tourism to a country is also its effect on jobs, on cottage industry, its multiple effects--those of development and broadening of the mind.

A Effort for Profitability Is Essential

Tourism as it is practiced in our country seems to be nonprofit. With this comment, Habi Abdou, ONT director explains: "We are at the beginning of the development of tourism in Niger. It has not become profitable yet. But tourism is more profitable in its industrial form. We are presently in an artisanal form."

In connection with the difficulties facing tourism in our country, Habi Abdou stated that tourism is going through a stage of mutation because we are only at the beginning of it. "Right now we are looking for better ways to develop it so that it will be much more profitable."

"It is not a difficult stage, but an organizational stage," he concluded.

The members of the ANH seem to be driven by a desire to make their association work. On last 28 November, new officers were chosen at Gaweye Hotel. Although the election of the new officers took place under favorable circumstances, the fact remains that hotel industry professionals refuse to accept responsibility for the failure of the task assigned to them.

Ali Madougou, outgoing president, blames his companions for avoiding their responsibility seeming to say that strength lies in unity. As for the new president, Bolho Mohamed, after his election he expressed his availability to promote the association. The ground has already been cleared by his predecessor because the condition of the treasury is satisfactory and the liquid capital was intact until the last general meeting. All indications are that Bolho has a lot on his plate if he is going to bring off the necessary therapy for straightening out the Nigerien hotel industry.

12666
CSO: 3419/161

BRIEFS

CRD WORK CONCLUDED--The Dosso Regional Development Council [CRD] meeting came to an end yesterday evening at Gaya with Commandant Dandi Abarchi, prefect, presiding. During these sessions, the council dealt with the issue of rebuilding the stand of livestock which will affect cattle breeders who have lost their entire herds. The CRD emphasized making a census of these breeders based on their mobility. In the area of off-season cultivation, sites counted number 214. Of the 55 million [CFA francs] allocated to the campaign for seed purchase and well digging, the department has now received 27 million. This year the quantity of seed was increased to encourage producers. As for the agricultural and livestock fair, it will be held in March at Birni N'Gaoure. On this subject, the participants insisted on the qualitative selection of products. [Text] [Niamey LE SAHEL in French 12 Dec 85 p 3] 12666

REPUBLICAN GUARD RECRUITMENT--"The Republican Guard will begin special recruitment of 100 Republican Guard cadets on 1 January 1986. Requirements are as follows: Be of the male sex; have Nigerien citizenship; have a minimum height of 1.68 meters; be of robust constitution and judged fit for both day and night service; be at least 20 years of age and at most 25 on 1 January 1986; hold the elementary certificate or the CFEPD or any other diploma recognized by the government as equivalent. Priority will be given to candidates with the elementary certificate. Be single. Candidates are to appear at the Republican Guard camp at Niamey on 20 December 1985 beginning at 8 o'clock. All are to bring their file including: certificate of citizenship; birth certificate, or a suppletory judgment as a substitute; police record excerpt (Bulletin No. 3) dated within the last 3 months; official certified copy or the original of the elementary certificate or the CFEPD." [Text] [Niamey LE SAHEL in French 12 Dec 85 p 2] 12666

IRANIAN AID--The Iranian Red Crescent turned over a shipment of 37 metric tons of medicine to the Nigerien Red Cross yesterday afternoon. The official delivery ceremony took place at Nigerien Red Cross headquarters in the presence of its president, Ali Bondiere, and the charge d'affaires from the embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran in our country. In a brief speech, the Iranian charge d'affaires said that this gift expresses the good and fruitful cooperation which exists between the Iranian Red Crescent and the Nigerien Red Cross in their common struggle in favor of the most needy. He added that the Islamic Republic of Iran intends to continue lending its

assistance to Sahelian countries and to Niger in particular. According to Ali Bondiere, president of the Nigerien Red Cross, this aid which the Islamic Republic of Iran gives to our country constitutes evidence of the active mutual aid in the direct line of the principles of our common religion, Islam. It also demonstrates the friendly and harmonious relations existing between the Nigerien and Iranian people. [Text] [Niamey LE SAHEL in French 11 Dec 85 p 3] 12666

EGYPTIAN EDUCATIONAL GIFT--In a brief ceremony which took place 10 December 1985 at 11 o'clock at the Egyptian embassy in Niger, the director of Arabic instruction received a collection of 350 books for the Franco-Arab Lycee in Niamey from the second secretary of the embassy. Sidi Mohamed Mahibou thanked the second secretary of the Egyptian embassy for this gesture which expresses the vitality of the cooperation between our two countries and the interest which the Egyptian government is showing in the development of Arabic instruction in Niger. [Text] [Niamey LE SAHEL in French 13-15 Dec 85 p 2] 12666

JAPANESE MEDICAL AID REPORTED--Japan delivered a shipment of medical supplies worth 975 million CFA francs to the Niger Ministry of Health garage last Friday. The donation consists of 30 all-terrain ambulances (17 of which have been received), a large shipment of spare parts and containers of medical products. According to the secretary-general of the Ministry of Public Health and Social Affairs, Daga Magagi, this shipment of supplies will shore up the equipment of the Niamey and Zinder hospital departments and the 130 outlying health facilities, including medical centers, rural dispensaries, maternity wards and pediatric centers. The Young Japanese Volunteers representative representing the Japanese Embassy at the ceremony stated that medical cooperation attests to the Japanese Government's active solidarity and interest in all Nigerian Government projects aimed at improving the welfare of the people. According to the Young Japanese Volunteers representative, this last shipment of supplies brings the total amount of Japanese aid donated during the 1976-1985 period to more than 19 billion CFA francs. [Text] [Niamey LE SAHEL in French 9 Dec 85 p 4] 9825/12232

CSO: 3419/157

FARA NDIAYE PLAYS DOWN PARTY SPLIT

Dakar LE POLITICIEN in French 22 Nov 85 p 4

[Interview by Pape Samba Kane; date and place not specified]

[Text] Absent from Senegal when the news of the sensational declaration signed by "some members of the Party leadership" broke, the number-two man in the Senegalese Democratic Party (PDS) had been home for a week when, after a visit to his Party's headquarters, one at Counsellor Wade's office, and one at his residence, we finally cornered him at the editorial offices of the INTERAFRICAINE, where we found him in the throes of moving out...

In an office cluttered with papers and (understandably) dusty, Fara NDiaye talked to us for an hour, as we considered the issues that are shaking his party, ranging beyond his statement in the latest issue of DEMOCRAT. That statement could be interpreted as part of something like "party discipline," since Serigne Diop and Counsellor Wade had taken their "shouting-match" onto the front pages of the papers, we thought it might be helpful to listen for a while, in a less structured atmosphere, to the man whose swing position between the leader and the number-three man in the PDS singles him out as a decisive voice in the battle over legitimacy that has broken out between Serigne Diop and Abdoulaye Wade. He readily agreed to talk to us and he had some startling things to say. One of them, having to do with the ISEFI [Not Further Identified] scandal (see interview) looked to us as though it had something to do with the somewhat precipitous departure of the INTERAFRICAINE's editorial bureau, all of whose equipment, incidentally, belongs to the ISEFI.

LE POLITICIEN: Mr Deputy Secretary-General, between the head of your party and Serigne Diop, who is or was in fact the number-three man in you party and wh claims to be the leader of those who must perforce be called dissidents in the scandal that is currently plaguing the PDS, you stand alone. Amid the hail of charges and counter-charges from all sides, your key position spotlights you as an ideal arbiter.

FARA NDiaye: First of all, I must correct your impression of my position.I do not see how the role of arbiter you would assign me in this matter fits me. I am a top-ranking member of the party, and whenever there is a problem I must reach my decision as a member. In other words, I must help find a solution for it, but it must be a solution that is compatible with my party's interests.

LE POLITICIEN: Yes, but this matter overflows the structure of your party now. For that matter, it all started outside the party.

FARA NDiaye: Given the fact that I was out of the country when it all began, I can only stick to the facts. And the facts are that a group of party leaders took it upon themselves to act in concert and to produce a document in which they include critical assessments of the party's approach, and do so outside the party confines. That alone is improper.

But the fact that they made it public before informing the party of their intentions is, to put it bluntly, a provocative act. The secretary general, who learned of the existence of this document from the newspapers, showed a responsible attitude in this case by summoning Serigne Diop to explain himself in the party's regular forum.

LE POLITICIEN: There are those, however, who have called the sanctions, if not too harsh, at least too hasty on the part of one who is a secretary for the orientation of his party.

FARA NDiaye: Looking at their behavior since their declaration, it was clear that their intention was to portray themselves as a small fraction of the party called upon to act as the party's legitimate and equal interlocutor. The party reacted to what it perceived as a threat to its unity, and, like any body under attack, it rose to defend itself.

LE POLITICIEN: Among the party's defense reactions was that allegation from counsellor Wade, according to whom there was collusion between Serigne Diop and the PS... Isn't that tantamount to blaming others for one's own misfortunes?

FARA NDiaye: On that specific question I think that light will eventually dawn and that we must let time takes its course. Having

said that, we find that since their expulsion several facts have come to light that strengthen our conviction that there was indeed collusion, in any event, with the government. Insofar as in the ISEFI affair, the police, the central commissariat most assuredly, and, more specifically, the central commissar [Editor's note: the same Kane who signed the 22 August manifesto] lent full support to Alassane Cissokho who, although he was no longer ISEFI Director, could call on the police to block access to the premises, could call on the police to seize ISEFI vehicles... ISEFI's vehicles are in the custody of the police right now! And yet, we, as a party, have never been able to call on the police to cover so much as a single demonstration. We could lodge a complaint against the central commissariat. Furthermore, those whom you call dissidents would rather conduct their activities in parallel with ours. When we gather at party headquarters, they meet at Serigne Diop's house. We know that they are planning to bring out a newspaper that will call itself LE DEMOCRATE. Where are they going to get the money? Doesn't all this amount to a whole bundle of presumptions in favor of the collusion theory? Well, we shall wait for time to pass, and the truth will out.

LE POLITICIEN: Basically now; because by allowing a presumption of good faith, if I may dare say so, to Serigne Diop, the charge of "deviation" from the lips of the party's orientation secretary, that, even so, has got to count for something?

FARA NDiaye: I do not believe that the party has indeed deviated from its line. A party is a dynamic whole, and it is normal that, as it evolves, there should, from time to time, emerge a need to redefine orientations, to reassess goals. And I encourage the leaders and members of my party to come up with critical assessments of its orientations and its immediate response to events. Since the party is so structured as to allow any of us to make such a move, I fail to understand why leaders at that level elected to make public such charges against the party leadership without ever having mentioned them in any of the party's forums. And behavior like theirs reaches my nose with a strong whiff of fish. And that is where I say, "No, thank you, I'm not hungry."

LE POLITICIEN: When counsellor Wade told the press that he is going to demand the annulment of Deputy Serigne Diop's election, isn't he going into a battle that is lost before it starts, given the precedent the assembly has already witnessed with two deputies from your own party?

FARA NDiaye: You know, counsellor Wade is a man sworn to the law, but he is also a very well-informed politician. His move is both psychological and political. When the case of the two deputies you mentioned came up (it involved Mafal Fall, who resigned, and Puraitan Fall, who was expelled from the Party), it was Serigne Diop himself who had dug out the legal arguments in support of the view that they should lose their seats as deputies. Among other

acts was a long letter to a p rty-member, which was published in No 28 of the DEMOCRATS, which you can easily look up. So much for the psychological aspect. As for the politics of it all, my own party has always held that the continuance in office of any deputy should be contingent upon his membership in the party on whose slate he was elected, and stands ready at all times to uphold that position. The National Assembly must plug this regulatory loophole before it becomes totally ridiculous. Look at the extreme case of counsellor Niang, who sits in the Chamber as representative of a party that did not field candidates in the elections.

6182

CSO: 3419/148

DIOP REFUTES SIDIBE ARTICLE

Dakar WAL FADJRI in French Dec 85 p 1

[Article by Mbaye-Kacques DIOP]

[Text] In issue 41 of your publication, dated 27 November to 13 December 1985, your colleague, L. Sidibe, reporting on the ban on the PS meeting that had been planned by the 8th Rufisque Coordination office on 1 December specifically for planning welcoming ceremonies for Col Qadhdhafi, wrote, no doubt relying on information sent him, that, despite the ban on the meeting imposed by the prefect of Rufisque, "Mbaye-Jacques Diop will confirm over the radio to his supporters that the meeting will indeed take place on 1 December, as previously agreed."

I ask you, out of concern for informing your readers more objectively, to be so good as to insert in your next issue the following fuller explanation and correction.

I shall not comment on the legal validity nor yet on the political timing of the prefect's order, issued to ban the meeting (that assessment will be handled at other levels), nor on what I believe is the personal implication on the part of that high official in Rufisque's political policy.

It merely seems needful to underscore the fact that I have never, at any time, contemplated going any further than banning the meeting.

The information, both in the press and on the air, had already been broadcast and program to broadcast the meeting itself had been planned, well before I learned, by hearsay, that the prefect had decided to oppose holding the meeting.

Since I had received no official notification to that effect, I did not think it would be very helpful to react to the militants.

Such notification, delivered by the police commissioner, at last arrived on Wednesday 27 November 1985.

It was based on an order dated June 1985 and issued in a particular context, which, at the time, banned all demonstrations "until further orders."

Could that order, in no way germane to the circumstances anticipated for the meeting, be used legally against the party members at the end of November 1985?

As I said earlier, the answer to that must come from another level.

Nevertheless, immediately upon receiving the notification, I undertook some consultations and, by agreement with the organizers and leaders of the 11th section -- because this was to be primarily a section-meeting-- I was forced to reach my decision to cancel the event.

That is how it came about that on Saturday 30 November, all party members had been notified, through their sections and committees, that the meeting had been canceled, and I went to Louaga, where I remained until Sunday evening. to take part in the Day of Reflection held there by the Socialist Party Study and Research Group.

It was not the police who kept the meeting from being held, but the members themselves, who obeyed the order I had given, and there was no attempt to regroup.

The Rufisque people, party members most of all, were absolutely astonished at the sight of this impressive deployment of forces which the Prefect had taken it upon himself to stage.

As the crowning touch of irony, a lot of those present thought this was some other national event, rather than the meeting that, for them, was already over, for better or for worse.

[Signed] Mbaye-Jacques Diop.

[Editor's note] "Your 'clarification' provides much additional information, but contributes no more objectivity than was visible in our colleague's article. In this particular instance, we are interested solely in the facts, and your "clarification' fails to controvert them."

6182

CSO: 3419/190

CAMARA REJOINS GANG OF FOUR

Dakar WAL FADJRI in French 27 Dec 85 pp 6-7

[Commentary by Youssoupha NDiaye]

[Text] Doudou Camara, PDS deputy and former resident of the penal camp over the matter of the "Libyan channel," has gone over, bag and baggage again to the group headed by Serigne Diop, commonly known as the "Gang of Four." And, at this spectacular and wholly unexpected move from a man until then deemed the most faithful of the faithful gathered around Abdoulaye Wade died the last faint, glimmering spark of hope for reconciliation within the PDS. Doudou Camara was one of the rare ranking powers in the PDS who had adopted, in the aftermath of the explosion of the Serigne Diop scandal, an attitude of strict neutrality, and preached dialogue and reconciliation between the warring groups.

"Yes, at first I opted for that position," he explained, when we met with him on 19 December last at the Hotel des Deputes; "It was because I was convinced that the positions could be reconciled provided both camps supported it. It was also because I was and am convinced that the whole strength of the PDS lies in unity."

All right: but why go knocking on Wade's door?

"Wade replied to all my overtures with a polite 'nyet,'" he said emphatically, "and because the one figure on whom I was counting for support in my approaches, I mean Fara Ndiaye, had gone over to Wade's side heart and soul, less than 48 hours after his return to Senegal. But what really angered and disappointed me in this business was that it meant they could hale Alassane Cissikho in front of a court for purely political reasons."

Loss

Asked for comment on the various charges laid against Serigne Diop and on the exclusion of a portion of his group, Deputy Doudou Camara suggested that Wade was never able to prove to him, with supporting documentation, that there was a real conspiracy hatched by Serigne Diop on orders from Abdou Diouf, nor could he provide evidence of the 40 million Diouf allegedly received in compensation. As for the expulsion of the PDS "challengers," he argues that the PDS political bureau had exceeded its authority. Actually, according to Mr Camara, "At the time of our congress in 1982, we had decided that

the national secretariat was the only authority empowered to impose sanctions, while the political bureau's power extended only to confirming or vacating such measures in case of challenge. Well, in this particular case, the national secretariat has not ruled, because the case was removed from its jurisdiction once it allowed discussion to begin."

With Doudou Camara gone, Wade loses some of his influence in the Casamance, where the PDS had made a major breakthrough. It remains to be seen if the other pillar of the PDS in the South, Deputy Laye Diop Diatta, will jump onto Serigne Diop's bandwagon. If his departure is confirmed, as the "gang of four" maintains it will be, Abdoulaye Wade will have to go into mourning for the Casamance, which has provided him with a steady stream of highly politicized activists and which gave him his first municipality (Oussouye).

One is tempted to say that all bets are off when it comes to the PDS. Is there any way left today to prevent its falling apart? The only answer if the PDS is to regain its former luster is Wade's resignation, say some observers. Those observers, though, may be forgetting that nobody in the PDS can match, or even rival Wade's charisma.

6182

CSO: 3419/190

JUDGE WARNS DRUG PUSHERS, THIEVES

Bulawayo THE CHRONICLE in English 7 Jan 86 p 1

[Text] Harare--People in positions of trust and those engaged in drug smuggling have been warned of tougher sentences should they be convicted of theft of public funds or drug peddling.

The warning was sounded yesterday by the Judge President, Mr Justice Sandura, at a special sitting of the High Court to mark the 1986 Legal Year.

The ceremony was attended by the Prime Minister, Cde Mugabe.

Mr Justice Sandura warned civil servants and employees in the private sector who are in positions of trust that severe penalties would be meted out if they were involved in theft of public funds, bribery and corruption.

He also warned international drug traffickers that the court took a very serious view of this type of crime and smugglers of such drugs as mandrax would face long prison sentences if they were caught and convicted.

He urged the public to play an active role in the administration of justice in the country.

It was absolutely essential, said Mr Justice Sandura, that the public co-operated with and assisted the police and other law enforcement agencies in their duties, because without that help, it would be very difficult to maintain law and order.

"The administration of justice is not the sole responsibility of judges and judicial officers. The public, policemen, legal practitioners and members of the Press all play a very important part.

"In the absence of such co-operation the maintenance of law and order becomes a very difficult task to accomplish. The detection of crime and the arrest of criminals becomes more difficult if not impossible.

He said if the commission of crime was not detected and criminals were not arrested the level of criminal activity would increase and the prevention of crime would become a very difficult exercise.

"Generally speaking, in most parts of Zimbabwe, the police and other law enforcement agencies receive excellent co-operation from the public. However, there are cases where the public has harboured criminals and has therefore not played their part in the administration of justice," said Mr Justice Sandura.

Some very serious crimes had been committed in the western part of the country and the perpetrators had not been caught because some of the local people were harbouring the criminals, he said.

With the police playing a paramount role in the administration of justice, it was very important that police investigations in any case were thorough and without favour.

"In some instances, proper investigations are not conducted and a guilty person may be acquitted. When that happens, the public who are not familiar with the law of evidence may blame the trial court for letting a guilty person go free," said Mr Justice Sandura.

/9274
CSO: 3400/876

BLACK SPOKESMAN URGES TALKS WITH ANC

MB110512 Johanesburg SAPA in English 0031 GMT 11 Jan 86

[Text] Johannesburg, 10 Jan (SAPA)--While all political parties condemned the African National Congress' plans to escalate armed conflict from within the townships into white areas, black spokesmen and organizations had varying reactions.

Most called for talks between the government and the ANC and for peace in the country.

The publicity secretary of the Azanian People's Organization, Mr Muntu Myeza, said the decision to escalate the armed struggle is "a result of the unwillingness of the South African Government to give black people the right to be part of the process of change in South Africa."

The release Mandela Campaign (RMC's) publicity secretary, Mr Aubrey Mokena said: "We wish to remind the Botha regime that the ANC is not bent on violence because it wants to be, but it is the South African regime with its racist and exploitative policies that forced the ANC to adopt a violent stance.

"Until the government releases Mandela and all political prisoners unconditionally and unbans all liberation movements, violence will escalate to unprecedented levels...

"To avoid any further deaths from the system, and possibly from the ANC, let us talk. If we do not there is going to be bloodshed."

Katlehongs Mayor Mr Thami Siluma said: "Mr Tambo's militia should be directed to the South African Defence Force. Violence will not lead us anywhere. The ANC blames the government for being violent and the government blames the ANC. The two should put down arms and sit down and solve the country's problems."

/9738
CSO: 3400/903

BUTHELEZI SAYS ANC, NP 'TRUE VICTIMS' OF APARTHEID

MB120521 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1738 GMT 11 Jan 86

[Text] Ulundi, 11 Jan (SAPA)--The African National Congress and the National Party [NP] were the true victims of apartheid because both believed they could not share power, using brutal force against opponents, Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi said today.

Addressing the central committee of Inkatha in Ulundi he said 1986 would be a weatershed year for the organization.

Inkatha had a multi-strategy approach and commitment to reconciliation while the NP neither believed in such an approach nor claimed to be working for change.

The state president, Mr P.W. Botha, acted as though he was the only person able to wield power in South Africa and his cabinet were terrorized by the thought of power-sharing. The ANC, on the other hand, also could not share the power it believed it had.

"They talk about themselves as the vanguard movement. They strut up and down the corridors of the international community as members of government in exile. They loudly and insistently proclaim themselves to be the sole representatives of the people of South Africa."

"They tolerate no opposition. They say that blacks must not enter town council politics and, when they do, they murder them brutally by hacking them to pieces or incinerating them alive. That is democracy for the ANC mission in exile."

Chief Buthelezi said the United Democratic Front proclaimed its leaders were in jail and did the work of the ANC making people in South Africa ungovernable.

/9738
CSO: 3400/903

BUTHELEZI RECEIVES LETTER FROM NELSON MANDELA

MB121203 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1201 GMT 12 Jan 86

[Text] Ulundi, 12 Jan (SAPA)--Jailed ANC leader, Nelson Mandela has sent a letter greeting chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi, the Kawazulu chief minister and Inkatha president.

Chief Buthelezi today told SAPA the message, sent by post from Pollsmoor Prison and in Mr Mandela's own handwriting, is addressed to Chief Buthelezi, his wife, Princess Irene, and family and expresses warm appreciation of good wishes received during the ANC leader's recent illness.

Chief Buthelezi said Mr Mandela indicated that Chief Buthelezi's goodwill and support contributed tremendously to Mr Mandela's speedy and complete recovery.

Chief Buthelezi was himself a member of the African National Congress before it was banned.

/9738
CSO: 3400/903

WHITE PRETORIA HOSPITAL TO USE BLACK NURSES

MB131105 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1036 GMT 13 Jan 86

[Text] Pretoria, 13 Jan SAPA--The H.F. Verwoerd Hospital in Pretoria is soon to make use of black nurses to fill its vacant nursing posts in white intensive care units, casualty wards and theatres.

This was revealed by the manager of the South African Nursing Associations (SANA) socio-economic affairs division, Miss Eileen Brannigan.

She said the H.F. Verwoerd Hospital had already advised SANA late in December 1985 that the hospital was ready to start advertising these posts for registered nurses of all race groups.

Miss Brannigan pointed out that the Johannesburg General Hospital also recently removed race specifications from similar advertisements for 40 registered nurses. This hospital had previously used nurses from the Baragwanath Hospital in white wards due to severe staff shortages.

Non-white hospitals will, however, not be drained of experienced staff by this measure. Their appointment in white wards might help decrease the high number of unemployed non-white registered nurses in the country.

A nurses pledge of service includes the undertaking that her duty to her patients will not be affected by considerations of religion, race or social standing, she said.

What might lead to trouble, however, was racial prejudice from patients. Many people still believed black nurses training was inferior to that of whites, Miss Brannigan said.

The fact was that black nurses had to meet the same requirements for registration as white nurses.

The issue of wage parity would also have to be addressed urgently should the appointment of black nurses in white wards become a reality, she said.

SANA was very much in favor of such a move.

Miss Brannigan said there was no justification for having black and white nurses working shoulder-to-shoulder in white wards for unequal wages.

"We cannot ask for general wage increases before this gap is closed," she said.

/9738
CSO: 3400/903

SPCC SPOKESMAN VIEWS BANNING OF EDUCATION MEETINGS

MP131124 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1105 GMT 13 Jan 86

[Text] Johannesburg, 3 Jan (SAPA)--The banning of at least four weekend meetings called to discuss the crisis in black education indicated the state's "serious misunderstanding" of the Soweto Parents Crisis Committee's [SPCC] intentions and the role parents wanted to play in resolving the problem, SPCC spokesman the Rev Molefe Tsele said last night.

Mr Tsele said the committee would complain to the deputy minister of education and training and development aid, Mr Sam de Beer.

Reacting to the banning of a meeting which was to be addressed by Mrs Albertina Sisulu in Vosloorus near Boksburg yesterday, he expressed fears that the organization itself would be outlawed.

"At the rate things are going, we cannot discount the possibility of mass detention of SPCC members or the SPCC being banned. I shudder to think what will happen to the education problem if that kind of action is taken by the authorities as no parent will be prepared to intervene anymore," Mr Tsele said.

A series of meetings were held last week to explain the resolutions taken at the consultative conference on education at Wits University last month. One of the resolutions was that children should go back to school on 28 January, a request which was turned down by the department of education and training.

Meetings were banned in Lenasia, Tembisa, Vosloorus and in Taranda near Heidelberg. Last week a meeting was prohibited in Cape Town.

"We fail to see how a discussion on the education crisis could be a danger to the community," Mr Tsele said. "Our intention is not to stir up anger--we have already succeeded in convincing the pupils to go back to school--but we want to create a forum for discussion."

/9738
CSO: 3400/903

UNREST BOOSTS URGE TO LEARN AFRICAN LANGUAGES

Johannesburg THE STAR in English 11 Jan 86 p 8

[Article by Lesley Cowling]

[Text]

Interest among white South Africans in learning an African language has increased tenfold, according to organisations offering language learning courses. And Zulu is far ahead of other languages in the popularity stakes.

One organisation which offers language tuition has experienced a tenfold increase in demand over the past six months. And a company which offers audio-visual systems has sold 45 percent more in the past year. Ten-thousand copies of the workbook for the TV series "Siyafunda" were sold out in a few days.

Miss Annica Foxcroft, of Interman (which teaches people in small groups), told *The Star* their students came from a wide spectrum or society.

"We have religious people who want to improve communication; supervisors and managers sent by companies who want to improve production and work relations; and ordinary people who just want to understand people around them," she said. Zulu was the most popular language, followed by Sotho.

Miss Foxcroft said the new trend towards learning Zulu was related to the current political climate.

"We experienced a surge of interest in African languages after the Soweto uprising in 1976. That died out, but it was not as great and sustained an interest as this," she said.

The managing director of Programmed Language Courses (PLC), Mr Howard Coleman, said African language tapes now constituted 65 percent of their turnover, as compared to 15 percent in 1977.

The managing director of Sounds Good Productions, Mr Horst Keil, said they had been overwhelmed by the reaction to "Siyafunda". "We've had phone calls from all over the country," he said.

Twenty-thousand copies of the workbook had been printed, 10 000 in English and 10 000 in Afrikaans. Because of a hold-up in printing, the English books reached the shops first and had sold out in a couple of days, Mr Keil said.

The Afrikaans books would be on sale from Monday, he said, and an extra 10 000 in each language were being printed.

"By making the series, we hoped to motivate people to learn and, the fact that it's in their homes every night, makes it easier for them."

/9274
CSO: 3400/875

RAJBANSI ASKS SCHOOL PUPILS TO IGNORE BOYCOTT

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 11 Jan 86 p 3

[Text]

DURBAN. — Anyone who called for an education boycott was an enemy of the struggle against apartheid, Mr Amichand Rajbansi, chairman of the Ministers' Council in the House of Delegates, said yesterday.

In a statement in Durban, Mr Rajbansi said:

"I appeal to all parents and children to ignore calls to boycott classes, as education is our greatest salvation.

"The best slogan, as history has proved it, is 'Education Before Liberation'," he said.

"It is our greatest weapon to fight injustice and unrighteousness in this country.

"The House of Delegates is dedicated to an equal education system and in Parliament we have fought for all race groups irrespective of race, colour or creed.

"Those boycott leaders now find it convenient to use the slogan 'Liberation Before Education'.

"Why did they not use this slogan when they were in school?

"On checking one would find that while certain leaders are advocating a boycott of classes, their children are not boycotting because they are in White private schools."

The House of Delegates had budgeted a record sum of R320-million for education.

"The boycott handbills that are being distributed are full of untruths," he said.

"When anyone resorts to untruths then they are bankrupt and weak.

"It is the envy of boycott leaders to note that under us we have achieved the best matric results in history.

"From a qualitative point of view anyone who asks you to boycott education is an enemy of the struggle against apartheid in South Africa."—Sapa.

/9274
CSO: 3400/875

DISMISSAL OF CAPE TOWN AREA TEACHERS CRITICIZED

MB131301 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1219 GMT 13 Jan 86

[Text] Cape Town, 13 Jan (SAPA)--Fourteen newly-appointed teachers left the premises of Rylands High School today after being confronted by more than 300 parents and pupils protesting against the dismissal of 11 teachers.

In another development, 22 teachers dismissed from colored schools converged on the Department of Education and Culture, House of Representatives, and handed over letters asking that their posts for 1986 be confirmed.

At Rylands High, parents opposed the presence of the new teachers as "immoral".

"They cannot escape the tag of scab because the dismissal of our teachers was an unjust act," a statement by the schools Parent, Teacher, Students Association [PTSA] said.

A letter handed to the vice-principal, Mr I.E. Moosa, called on Indian education authorities to reinstate the teachers. It warned parents would "not stand idly by" while teachers were "ripped away" from the community and would oppose any measures taken by the department until the matter was "amicably resolved."

The teachers, all temporary staff, were dismissed last year when another 11 teachers at the school were transferred.

The transferred teachers were later reinstated by the fate of the dismissed teachers--most of whom reported for duty today--is the subject of a forthcoming court case.

A spokesman for the parents, Mr Moosa Kprey said today: "We did not come here seeking confrontation but out of concern for our children's education and in protest against the teachers' dismissal."

The PTSA statement said it was hoped the Department of Education and Culture, House of Delegates, would take note of the "degree of feeling in the community."

Meanwhile, 22 teachers dismissed last year from nine schools in the greater Cape Town area went to the offices of the Department of Education and Culture, House of Representatives, today to submit letters asking that their teaching posts for this year be confirmed.

When they were informed of their dismissal last year, the teachers were told they would not be allowed to teach at any school under the department without written permission of the executive director, R.A.J. Arendse.

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CORRESPONDENT VIEWS LACK OF DIALOGUE AMONG LEADERS

Johannesburg THE STAR in English 13 Jan 86 p 10

[Article by Hannes de Wet]

[Text]

As the unrest situation in South Africa deteriorated during the past year, the possibility of talks between leaders on different sides of the fence arose on more than one occasion.

But hopes of real dialogue invariably bogged down in a mire of conditions. Time and again a series of ifs were stipulated — either by one or both sides — which ended the prospect of talks there and then.

Examples are not difficult to find:

● The first significant flicker of hope last year that an important discussion could get going was before the announcement of the state of emergency. That was with the apparent easing of tensions between the State President, Mr P W Botha, and the Chief Minister of kwaZulu, Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi.

After four years of bitter acrimony between them the two leaders met in May for the second time in six months.

But a sudden chill developed in relations after President Botha's end-of-session speech in Parliament on June 19 in which he again rejected a one-man-one-vote unitary state.

According to Chief Buthelezi Mr Botha had also ruled out the possibility of a unitary state structured along either union or federal lines.

Softened

Because of that, he said, it was no longer possible for him to negotiate with the Government.

Chief Buthelezi later softened his stand, but still insisted on a declaration of intent from the State President that negotiations between them would be about a federation or the sharing of power.

Mr Botha refused, saying that such a declaration would boil down to prejudicing the issue. He preferred an open agenda, Mr Botha said.

And that was the end of talks between Chief Buthelezi and the State President.

● In July news headlines about the worsening unrest situation were briefly replaced by ones mooting the possibility of a meeting between the State President and Bishop Desmond Tutu.

This followed a British TV interview during which the Bishop said he was willing to meet Mr Botha to discuss ways of resolving the unrest.

After initial positive signals about such a meeting, the State President refused to see the Bishop alone, saying that he could join an Anglican church delegation which had an appointment with Mr Botha.

Bishop Tutu didn't want to meet Mr Botha as part of a delegation, saying talks between groups tended to end up in nothing more than posturing which prevented "real dialogue".

And that was the end of talks between Bishop Tutu and the State President.

● A more recent raising of hopes for dialogue between two extreme sides was sparked by the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr Ron Miller.

During a speech in Johannesburg he referred to United Democratic Front patron Dr Allan Boesak and Bishop Tutu as "men of influence" who did have a constituency.

He added that the Government would be prepared to talk to them if these discussions were not on a one-to-one basis.

Dr Boesak responded by expressing his surprise at the positive tone of these remarks, but then proceeded to give a long list of conditions.

He would talk to the Government only, he said, if, among other things, the state of emergency was called off and people arrested in terms of the emergency regulations were freed.

The Government did not respond to these demands.

And that was the end of possible talks between Dr Boesak and the Government.

Bishop Tutu's reaction to Mr Miller's statements deviated from the usual pattern. He set only one, very mild, condition for talks with the Government, namely that the delegations participating in the discussions shouldn't be too large.

But there has apparently been no attempt by the Government to take the matter further.

Disappeared

And so another opportunity for dialogue disappeared into thin air.

● The African National Congress set anything but mild conditions for talks between itself and the Government.

Although there is no real possibility at present of talks between the Government and the ANC, the two parties have at least communicated — albeit through the media — about their respective conditions for talks.

Taking an official stand on the matter, the ANC set out the following conditions in which it would consider talking to the Government:

The release of Nelson Mandela and other political prisoners, the lifting of the state of emergency, the withdrawal of troops and "repressive machinery" from the townships, the lifting of the ban on the ANC and the creation of conditions in which free political activity can take place.

The State President responded by reiterating that the ANC "must first lay down its arms, cease its terrorism and the murder of innocent people and free itself of its international connections with the Communist Party".

Reports that the Government was putting out feelers on negotiations to the ANC, were quickly dismissed by the Government as "devoid of all truth".

Once again, all that remained were two lists of conditions.

The real story behind the multitude of conditions is, of course, that all the central figures are thinking about their own constituencies. To agree too readily to talks with the other side could erode credibility with their own supporters.

But the question remains: Isn't the condition in which the country finds itself a serious enough reason for all the leaders involved to think again? Have all the parties involved not become captives of traditional patterns and perceptions?

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BRIEFS

COMMUNITY COUNCILLOR'S MURDER--East London, 13 Jan (SAPA)--The murder last week of prominent former East London community councillor, Mrs Blanche Mdudu, was today condemned by the Progressive Federal Party [PFP]. The regional chairman of the PFP, Mr Sandy Stretton, said Mrs Mdudu's brutal murder again highlighted the alarming polarization "that has become so evident in South Africa." Mrs Mdudu's charred body was found in Mlungisi township by police last Friday after her house had been petrol-bombed. "It is a sad day when freedom of expression and the right to differ results in murders of this nature. The PFP views the escalation of violence in a very serious light and cannot condemn too strongly violence in all its forms," Mr Stretton said. "Furthermore, the PFP extends its heartfelt sympathy to the family of Mrs Mdudu and other victims of these senseless criminal acts." [Text] [Johannesburg SAPA in English 1721 GMT 13 Jan 86 MB] /9738

ARGUS JOURNALIST ACQUITTED--Cape Town, 13 Jan (SAPA)--ARGUS journalist Pippa Green, charged with contravening the gatherings and demonstrations act, was acquitted in the Capt Town Magistrates Court today. She was arrested on 7 November outside the ARGUS building in St George's Street while holding a placard saying "Blackout: journalists protest." The Magistrate, Mr M.J. Tolken, said that at the stage Miss Green went out to protest, 12 of her colleagues had already picketed. Evidence was that police were aware of the protest. As others before her had not been arrested her actions, as far as she was concerned, could not have been unlawful. Mr Tolken found that Miss Green had intended to demonstrate and had consulted her legal advisers before the picket. However, they advised her the law was unclear whether the picket would be illegal or not, Mr Tolken said. [Text] [Johannesburg SAPA in English 1254 GMT 13 Jan 86 MB] /9738

COUNCIL DISCUSSES BEACH ISSUE--East London, 13 Jan (SAPA)--East London'g 12000 ratepayers face the prospect of a city council-initiated public meeting and a possible poll on the beach issue. This was decided tonight at an action committee meting of the council which was closed to the press. Action committee chairman, Mr Donald Card, confirmed the issue was discussed after the controversy which was sparked on New Year's Day when 25,000 black people flocked onto the whites-only Eastern Beach. A motion

from the MPC [Member of Provincial Council] for East London City, Mrs Elsabe Kemp, asked that a firm of consultants be appointed to investigate the beach issue. The consultants proposals would be put to ratepayers at a public meeting to be called by the mayor, Mr Joe Yazbek. Mr Card said everything would be done "as soon as possible". "Time is of the essence in this matter as it is vitally affecting our city. We have to work fast to solve it." [Text] [Johannesburg SAPA in English 2042 GMT 13 Jan 86 MB] /9738

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NORWEGIAN OFFICIAL SEES DROP IN OIL SHIPMENTS TO RSA

Oslo AFTENPOSTEN in Norwegian 13 Jan 86 p 49

[Text] David Vikoren, administrative director of Norges Rederiforbund [Norwegian Shipowners' Association] thinks a significant reduction, or nearly total collapse, of oil shipments on Norwegian registered ships to South Africa will take place in 1986.

The Shipowners' Association on behalf of the shippers has supported the government's recommendation of not to make contracts for individual shipments of oil to South Africa.

"The government's proposal for a system registering Norwegian ship callings to South Africa, as well as a proposal not to transport oil to South Africa, is something the shippers are going to be able to live with, since the loss effects will be limited. At the same time, the proposal will go a long way in leading to a halt of Norwegian oil transports to South Africa. Therefore, it ought not be difficult to reach a policy agreement on the government's proposal," stated Vikoren.

The Shipowners' director asserted that from 1,200 to 1,500 Norwegian jobs at sea may be in danger if the system of an official registering of all Norwegian shipping to and from South Africa--as the Parliament originally proposed--is adopted.

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POLICY TOWARD MINERAL DEPENDENCY DISCUSSED

Policy Toward Pretoria Changing

Paris LIBERATION AFRIQUE CARAIBE PACIFIQUE in French Sep 85-Feb 86 pp 20-21

[Unattributed article: "France--Toward A New Policy"]

[Text] "Everything is France's fault," (1) complain South African industrialists in the face of the successive economic sanctions levied against the apartheid regime by numerous Western countries. Ever since last summer, the current French Government has made itself conspicuous in the international arena by the dramatically new positions it has taken (2) on South Africa, breaking with the policies followed by preceding governments, and departing from the policy of rejecting any sanctions which it had followed ever since 1981.

Over and above the undeniable symbolic value of these measures, what is their real scope and effect?

Only a concrete analysis of the many-faceted relationships that exist between France and South Africa can shed light on this point.

Such a panoramic view will not be exhaustive: for the most part it will cover events subsequent to May 1981, in other words since the accession of the Left to power.

The ties that link French imperialism and the racist Pretoria regime are political, military, economic and cultural in nature (3).

Political Ties

The accession of the Left to power in May 1981 raised many hopes: Lionel Jospin, speaking on 20 May 1981 at a UNESCO conference on sanctions against the Republic of South Africa spoke of the necessity of a total embargo on arms destined for Pretoria. There was one spectacular statement after another on the apartheid issue. The PS said it intended to do everything possible to get the government of the Left gradually to extricate itself from France's economic ties with South Africa.

But the enthusiasm soon waned.

Not only did France not drop out of the "contact group" on Namibia (composed of West Germany, the US, Great Britain and Canada) (4), but it waited until 24 July 1985 to announce publicly the breaking off of a shameful collaboration which had lasted all too long.

The campaign promises made prior to May 1981 had not been kept: it was only in the summer of 1985 that the French Government promised to forbid any new investment in the land of apartheid.

Worse, the expected embargo on the provision of paramilitary materiel and manufacturing licenses (for Mirages and Alouettes) was never declared, and up to 10 September 1985, when 11 EEC countries all decided to impose sanctions against South Africa Paris and Pretoria continued to exchange military attaches (5).

Arms Trafficking and Nuclear Collaboration

It must be admitted that French economic and military interests in South Africa (RSA) are sizeable, and have been since 1960, when De Gaulle decided to arm the RSA in exchange for gold and uranium.

At that time there was no embargo on arms. It will be recalled that the UN voted the embargo in November 1977. France had voted in favor of that decision. It thus seemed reasonable to expect that with the arrival of the Left that embargo would be extended to paramilitary equipment. A vain hope!

In the nuclear field as well, collaboration went ahead apace. Thus, the French group FRAMATOME was able to announce on 25 July, the very day after the Fabius government's decision on sanctions against the RSA, that the second reactor for the nuclear power plant at Koeberg--a plant built by FRAMATOME in 1976--had now been integrated into the South African power network.

Granted, the "union of the Left" government had pledged to honor all the commercial contracts signed under Giscard. According to Francois Mitterrand, what was at stake was the solemn word of France, given by his predecessor, and it must be respected!

There is no shortage of examples to demonstrate conclusively that there has been no rupture in the continuity of the close ties in this field between France and Africa (6).

Commercial and Financial Relations

On 24 April 1981 Francois Mitterrand, then a candidate, had stated: "I refuse to accept--because experience proves the contrary--that further expansion of economic ties with Pretoria can contribute to ending the oppression of the black and colored majority by the white minority."

But sometimes it is not easy to go from words to action. In both the energy field, through companies such as CFP-Total, and in banking, primarily through the nationalized banks like Indo-Suez, exchanges between France and the Pretoria regime have grown considerably over the last 4 years.

And what is more, France does not respect the UN resolutions on occupied Namibia:

--CFP-Total distributes motor fuel in Namibia, where it has numerous service stations. CFP-Total also owns a part (10 percent) of the stock of the Rossing uranium mine;

--The Paribas group is in partnership with De Beers, the South African company, in the exploitation of Namibian diamond fields;

--ELF-Aquitaine, in partnership with De Beers Oil Production, operates a 50,00-km concession in northern Namibia.

More than 100 French companies, both nationalized and private, are represented in the RSA, most of them by subsidiaries.

Among the "private" companies one might cite Air Liquide, Oreal, UTA and Le Nickel, not to mention the Interagra group, headed by J. B. Doumeng, the "red billionaire."

All of these industrial and commercial activities have been made possible by the infrastructure which the French banking and financial system has in place in the RSA. Without the banks, the French companies might not have been willing to take such high investment risks. As the spearhead of French imperialism in its penetration of South Africa, French banks have made many loans to the Pretoria regime: without them, it is probable that the latter would not have been able to finance its costly policy of apartheid, repression and war in Namibia.

During the period from mid-1982 to the end of 1984, 23 French banks, both nationalized and private, granted the RSA loans totaling an estimated Fr 10 billion, or twice the amount extended between January 1981 and mid-1982. Thus the Indo-Suez financial company, nationalized in 1981, has continued its activities through its affiliate, the French Bank of South America, in which it holds a 55 percent share. That institution, in turn, has been one of the main financiers for large projects mounted by the apartheid regime, particularly in the field of energy production.

To sum up, it will be recalled that the French are the principal shareholders in the South African gold mines; Regie Renault, through the Euromotors Company, has won a large share of the South African automobile market, first with its R5 and later with the new R9; since 1980 South Africa has been France's largest coal supplier, even surpassing the US and Poland. Total South African imports to and exports from France were larger in 1984 than in 1980 (a little more than Fr 10 billion, compared to just over 9 billion four years previously). But it is true that the French

position in the South African market is relatively small (4 percent) compared to that of other Western powers besides Japan (in particular West Germany, Great Britain and the US), all of which have an average market share between 11 and 16 percent.

A New Policy Dynamic?

The statements by Laurent Fabius and symbolic gestures such as the minute of silence before the Embassy of South Africa after the execution of B. Moloise, may open up a new policy dynamic. The idea of economic sanctions is at last being accepted now, even if offices in the Ministry of External Trade (to take just one example) are trying to minimize the scope of the sanctions Fabius has announced. The PS and the government, if they want to retain their credibility and authenticity on this issue, should have Parliament adopt "sanctions" legislation. This would involve the withdrawal of all arms manufacturing licenses, the cessation of all nuclear collaboration, no more direct or indirect investments, and an end to South African trade with this country. These sanctions would contain a commitment to disinvestment and would also put an end to cultural, athletic and touristic exchanges as long as apartheid stands. Such a firm attitude would have to be supported by dynamic actions in international fora and by multi-faceted aid to the people's movement of South Africa. How much political will does this government have?

FOOTNOTES

1. Cf. LIBERATION of 10 October 1985, "La solitude du financier sud-africain."

2. On 24 July 1985, the French Government took three steps: recalling [the ambassador of] France in South Africa; proposing to the UN Security Council "a series of specific measures to be taken by the international community;" and suspending all new investment. On 26 July the Security Council adopted the (revised) resolution proposed by France. On 18 October Laurent Fabius appeared in front of the Embassy of South Africa to observe a minute of silence as a sign of protest against the execution of Benjamin Moloise.

3. For a complete and detailed list, see issue No. 59 (summer 1985) of APARTHEID NON!, the journal of the Anti-Apartheid Movement, whose material we have used freely.

4. Cf. LIBERATION AFRIQUE CARAIBE PACIFIQUE, No. 11, November-December 1981, "L'Eurosocialisme et l'Afrique."

5. On 2 March 1982 the president of the South African arms industry association admitted candidly that "the arms industry in South Africa is closely tied to the French arms system."

6. See APARTHEID NON!, No. 59.

Threat of Chrome Cutoff

Paris LIBERATION AFRIQUE CARAIBE PACIFIQUE in French Sep 85-Feb 86 pp 21-22

[Unattributed article: "Chrome: France's Dependence and Vulnerability"]

[Text] On 28 October President Botha, speaking at a national party meeting, threatened to deprive the West of chrome in retaliation for economic sanctions. The chrome threat is sufficiently specific to be of concern to Western steelmakers and their governments.

On previous occasions South African leaders had made similar statements, but had lumped all those mineral and energy raw materials together--gold, vanadium, platinum, rhodium, uranium, coal, manganese, chrome...the sheer number of metals cited made it impossible to grasp what was really at stake. Then, too, it was said that the first victims of a supply cutoff would be the South Africans themselves, those with the most interest in maintaining the flow of exports that provides them the resources necessary to acquire technologies, capital goods and arms systems that they themselves do not produce.

"If you play with fire, you may get your fingers burned." "If you step on South Africa's grave, you risk falling in it," etc. Botha is pursuing variations on the same theme: the dependence of the Western countries--the US, Europe, Japan--on South Africa's raw materials.

Chrome is Threatened

At the same time, after the political stands taken by France in July 1985--the economic effects of which are still only tenuous--anti-apartheid movements have succeeded in forcing President Reagan to order sanctions; Commonwealth pressures have constrained Mrs Thatcher to take a few largely symbolic measures.

Botha's rhetoric therefore gets more specific, and the threat is made explicit: chrome is threatened!

The question then becomes how to assess the propaganda of a repugnant regime versus the realities of the need of consumer industries for chrome. Looking a little more closely, one realizes that in fact:

1) South Africa has succeeded, in just 15 years, in turning geological wealth into industrial wealth, and that;

2) the consumer industrial countries have accepted a certain state of "dependency" through various simple economic mechanisms. But first of all, perhaps we should consider the importance of chrome in our economies.

The steel industry uses on average about two kilograms of chrome per ton of steel. Very popular and highly sophisticated stainless steels consume nearly two-thirds of the chrome used in metallurgy; the remainder is used

in the "refractory" steels--so named because they can withstand high temperatures--which are found in electrical steelworks and in the glass and cement industries.

Finally, the chemical industry consumes 10 to 20 percent of the chrome in various ways: coating of surfaces, leather treatment, dyes and paints, in anticorrosives, drilling muds, etc.

Chrome is thus essential for the manufacture of steel in general and all special steels as well; worse, in the short term no economically feasible substitute is conceivable, except for certain minor tasks (refractory products, anticorrosives, certain alloys).

In 1978, a German research institute came up with an apocalyptic scenario of the effects of a break in chrome supplies on the FRG's steel and metallurgical industries (unemployment, decline in production). Surveys of the same kind were then conducted in England and France. However, between 1975 and 1985 South Africa gradually turned its geological wealth into industrial wealth, thanks to its control over an intermediate product, ferrochrome.

Geopolitics of Chrome and Ferrochrome

The economically exploitable reserves of chromium ore are concentrated in southern Africa: 70 percent in South Africa, 20 percent in Zimbabwe, and the other 10 percent is divided between the USSR (7 percent) and a number of other countries (Finland, Philippines, Albania, Turkey, Madagascar...).

The biggest ore producers are not necessarily the countries with the largest reserves: the USSR (30 percent of world production in 1983) comes ahead of South Africa (28 percent), Albania (11 percent), Zimbabwe (5 percent), and four other countries each of which accounts for about 4 percent of world production: Finland, India, Philippines, and Brazil. New Caledonia's Tiebaghi facilities (northern region), with 90,000 tons of chrome concentrates, all of it exported to China and Japan, account for 1 percent of global production.

But several technological developments have intervened since the 1970's, and these have altered the way chromite, or chrome ore, is used in metallurgy: the development of electric steelworks has reduced the need for the "refined" or "overrefined" varieties of ferrochrome--those with little carbon content--and increased the need for the varieties, richer in carbon, known as "charge-chrome."

The mineral producers found it was to their advantage to transform their chromite into ferrochrome locally; especially South Africa, where the cost of coke and a kilowatt-hour of electricity remain quite low.

South Africa has thus put a kind of "squeeze" on the chrome consumers by keeping the price of the ore high and reducing the price of the charge-chrome. From 1970 to 1983 the price of chromite went up by 25

percent, while the price of ferrochromes remained stable. No ore-processing industry was able to compete with South Africa's strategy: the factory at Ardoise, in the Gard (Ugine-Sacilor) in France stopped its production of ferrochrome, which the country now imports from South Africa to the tune of Fr 436 million per year.

The US, Germany and Japan have given up for the same reasons. Italy, Sweden and Finland have retained their ferrochrome production capacity, Finland because it is a producer, Sweden because energy is abundant and not very expensive.

An Alternative Strategy?

Today Europe, the US and Japan depend on South Africa for more than 50 percent of their ferrochrome supplies. And there is no realistic alternative (see below) within the next 3 to 5 years. Doubtless the national raw materials stockpiles which most of the industrialized countries created after the first oil shock in 1973 have been discreetly reinforced with additional chromite and ferrochrome over the last few months. All the same! The situation in which the Western countries and France find themselves in 1985 is testimony to the success with which the South Africans have carried out a deliberate strategy aimed at increasing the vulnerability and dependence of their best customers.

The political dividends from this strategy seem to us much more important than the economic benefits which the relatively small ferrochrome trade might produce for South Africa's balance of payments.

Surviving Without Dependence?

The alternative is this:

1. Reduce consumption of raw materials imported from South Africa, by recycling, substitution and economizing on raw materials in the manufacturing process;

2. Maintain a domestic ferrochrome production capacity and preserve technological competence;

3. Develop, through an aggressive North-South policy, alliances with chrome ore producing countries, so that they will have a long-term interest in either the provision of raw materials or local ferrochrome processing. Zimbabwe, of course, but also Madagascar, Mozambique, India, Brazil, the Philippines, etc. would stand to benefit from such a policy.

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